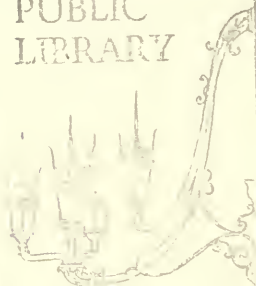


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Boston's Open Space

1987
PARK EVALUATION
&
SITE SUMMARIES

HYDE PARK

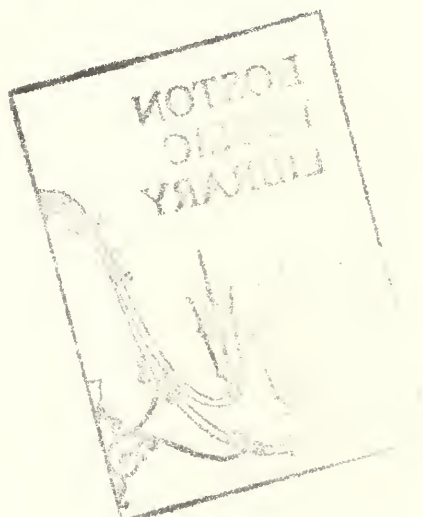
~~HYDE PARK~~



MAYOR'S OFFICE
OF CAPITAL PLANNING

HYDE PARK
E92
1987

[REDACTED]



EVALUATION OF
CITY OF BOSTON
PARK AND RECREATION LAND

NEIGHBORHOOD OF HYDE PARK

Prepared for
MAYOR'S OFFICE
OF
CAPITAL PLANNING

THE HALVORSON COMPANY, INC.
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS AND
SITE PLANNING CONSULTANTS
161 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02115

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

NEIGHBORHOOD OF HYDE PARK

<u>PARKS</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
HP-1. Amatucci Playground Glenwood and Hyde Park Avenues	0.47
HP-2. Iacano Playground Milton, Readville and Fleet Streets	5.03
HP-3. Ross Playground Westminster Street and Ayles Road	13.03
HP-4. Weider Park Metropolitan Avenue and Dale Street	6.5
HP-5. - HP-18. Not Within Scope of Survey	

SQUARES AND MALLS

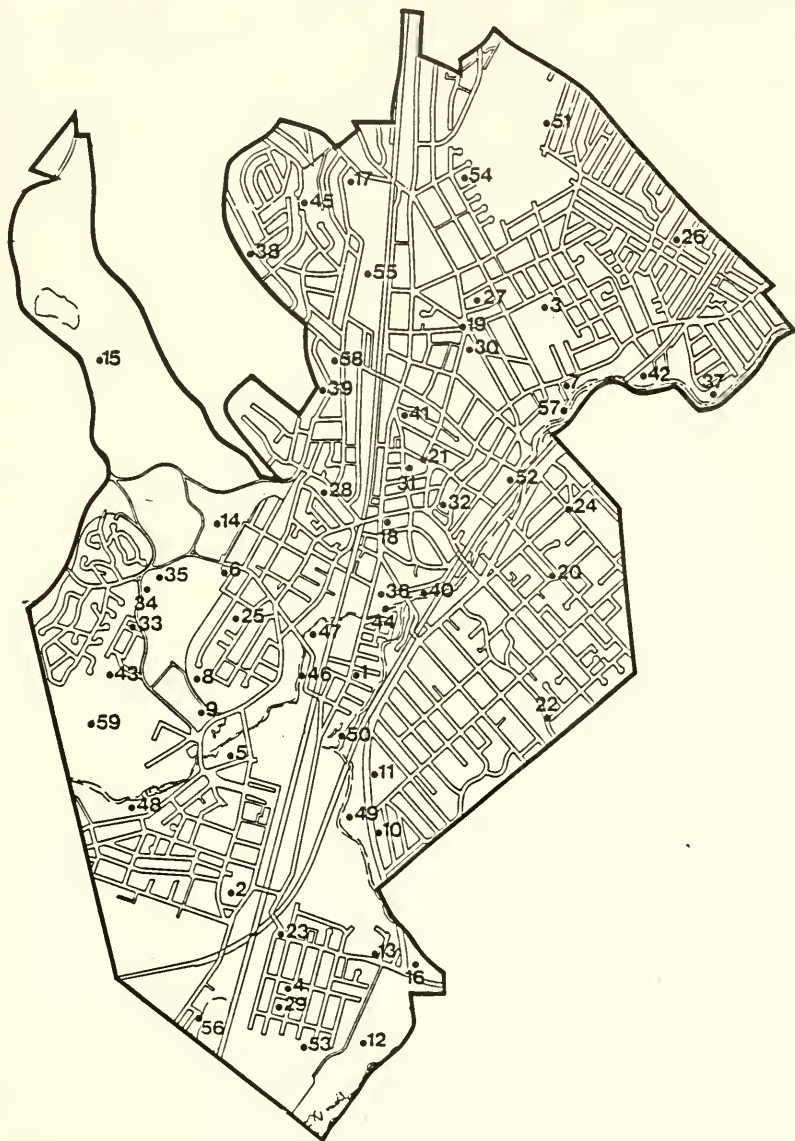
	<u>Acreage</u>
HP-19. Cleary Square River Street and Hyde Park Avenue	0.1
HP-20. - HP-35. Not Within Scope of Survey	

URBAN WILDS

	<u>Acreage</u>
HP-36. - HP-46. Not Within Scope of Survey	
HP-47. Mother Brook II	5.96
HP-48. Mother Brook III	4.46
HP-49. - HP-54. Not Within Scope of Survey	
HP-55. Sherrin Street Sherrin, Austin and Marston Streets	30.21
HP-56. Sprague Pond Lakeside Avenue	1.35
HP-57. - HP-59. Not Within Scope of Survey	

Neighborhood: Hyde Park

Map of Neighborhood's Open Space





CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION



SITE NO.

Neighborhood: HYDE PARK

Site Name: AMATUCCI PLGD.

Location: GLENWOOD & HYDE PK.

Evaluation Team: SF & Pdt

Evaluation Date: 5.1.87

Surrounding Land Uses: Commercial & Residential

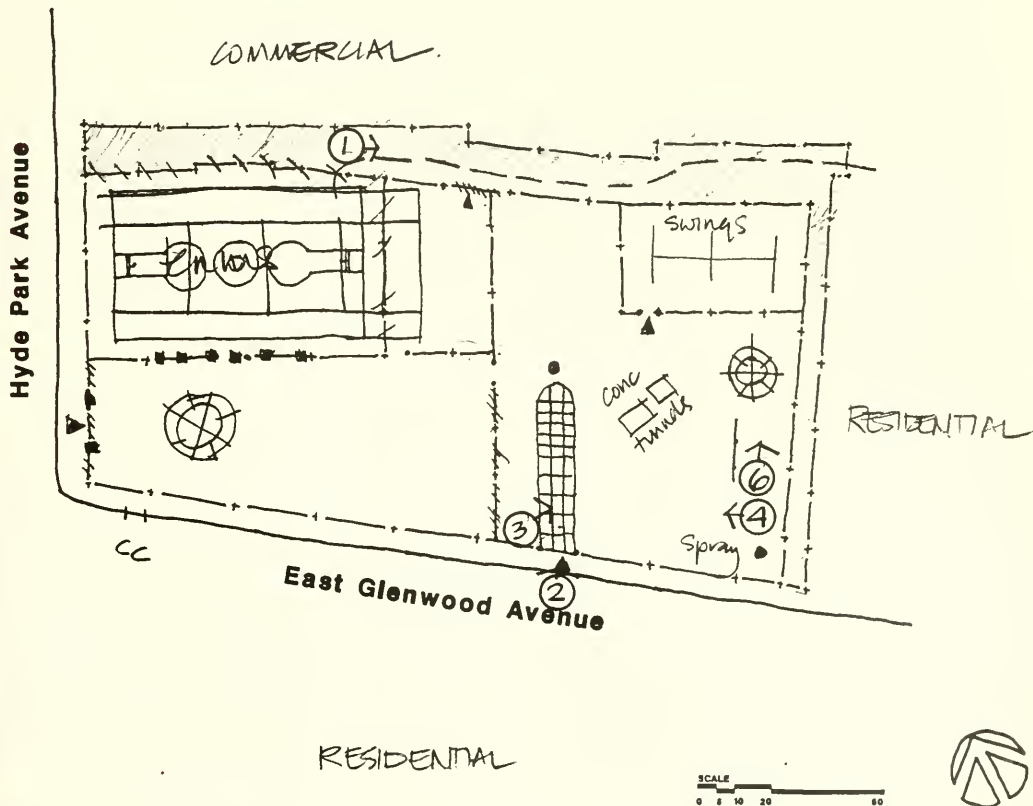
Site Type: Playlot

Acreage: 0.47

Weather Conditions:

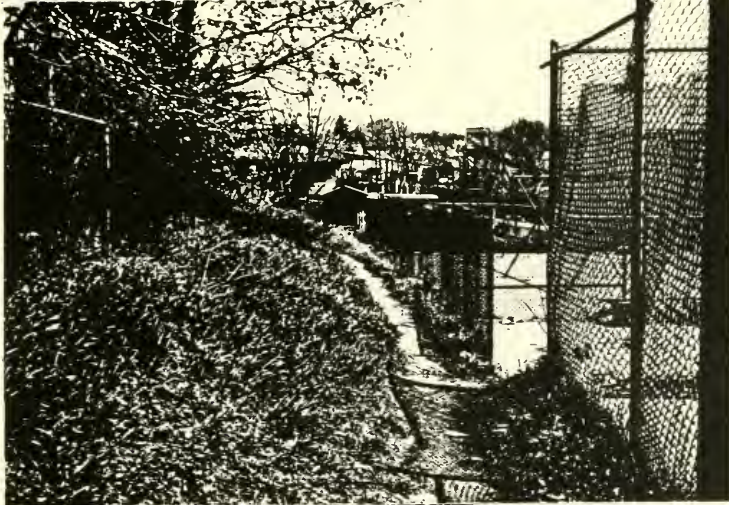
Sunny

Site Plan





SITE NO.



Site Photograph 1

Two chain link fences create wasted and difficult-to-maintain space. This shows short-cut desire line.



Site Photograph 2

Entrance into park showing destroyed benches, weed growth and trash. No trees or grass.



Site Photograph 3

Swings unusable, benches in need of repair, equipment needs painting.



SITE NO.



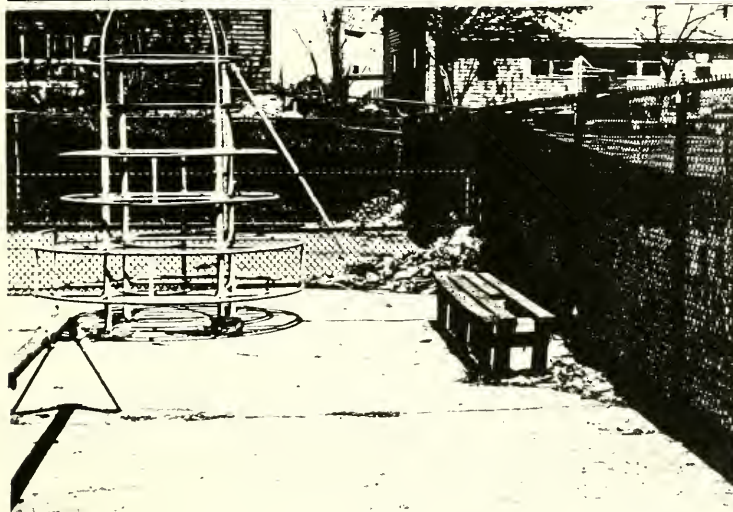
Site Photograph 4

Park lacks plantings -
excessive pavement



Site Photograph 5

View of park from
across street. Tennis
court recently converted
from basketball. Park
has bleak character.



Site Photograph 6

Lack of maintenance -
trash and leaf build-up.

Neighborhood: Hyde Park
Site Name: Amatucci Playground
Location: East Glenwood and Hyde Park Avenues
Acreage: 0.47 A
Site Type: Playlot

Site Description:

Amatucci Playground is a small rectangular park on the corner of East Glenwood and Hyde Park Avenues. It abuts a commercial building on the north and a residence on the east. The park is entirely paved except for a 10 to 15-foot strip of steeply sloping grass. A tennis court is located in the northwest corner of the site. There are play structures in the eastern half of the park. Benches are scattered around the park, and the site is enclosed with chain-link fencing. Surrounding land uses are commercial and residential.

Condition Assessments:

The fencing, bollards and paving are in fair condition, while the benches are in poor condition. The tennis court is in good condition, although the net posts need hardware. Two of the three play structures are in fair condition, and the swings are unusable. The grass is in very poor condition. Renovations are scheduled by the city, including a new playground, conversion of the tennis court to a basketball court, and repair of the fencing.

Major Site Issues:

Amatucci Playground is extraordinarily bleak, and provides an inhospitable environment for play. There is unnecessary fencing in several areas, which complicates maintenance. The almost complete paving of the space and the absence of trees is the major cause for the barren character of the park, made worse by vandalism and poor maintenance. The site deserves redesign to provide a more inviting and satisfying park experience.

DR

Neighborhood: Hyde Park

Site Name: Amatucci Playground

No.: HP-1

Location: East Glenwood and Hyde Park Avenues

Acreage: 0.47 A

Site Type: Playlot

Site Description:

Amatucci Playground is a small rectangular park on the corner of East Glenwood and Hyde Park Avenues. It abuts a commercial building on the north and a residence on the east. The park is entirely paved except for a 10 - 15 foot strip of steeply sloping grass. A tennis court is located in the northwest corner of the site. There are play structures in the eastern half of the park. Benches are scattered around the park, and the site is enclosed with chain link fencing. Surrounding land uses are commercial and residential.

Condition Assessments:

The fencing, bollards and paving are in fair condition, while the benches are in poor condition. The tennis court is in good condition, although the net posts need hardware. Two of the three play structures are in fair condition, and the swings are unusable. The grass is in very poor condition. Renovations are scheduled by the City which include a new playground, conversion of the tennis court to basketball and repair of the fencing.

Major Site Issues:

Amatucci Playground is extraordinarily bleak, and provides an inhospitable environment for play. There is redundant fencing in several areas which complicates maintenance. The almost complete paving of the space and the absence of trees is the major contributor to the barren character of the park, made worse by vandalism and poor maintenance. The site deserves redesign to provide a more inviting and satisfying park experience.

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

SITE SUMMARY



SITE NO.

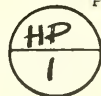
DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:	
LAYOUT/ORGANIZATION OF SPACE	same court at corner, playground set back from Hyde Park Ave
USE OF PLANT MATERIALS	minimal - grassed slope along ledge
APPROPRIATENESS OF PARK FUNCTIONS TO NEIGHBORHOOD	
BARRIER FREE DESIGN	cutout at corner. Access possible throughout park.
DRAINAGE CONDITION	adequate
DESIGN-RELATED MAINTENANCE ISSUES	grass strip between parallel fencing difficult to maintain
VANDALISM	graffiti, destroyed fences, broken play equipment
VACANT PARCEL TO SOUTH, EAST	No
VISIBILITY AND SAFETY:	
VISIBILITY INTO SPACE	good
VISIBILITY OUT FROM SPACE	good
HIDDEN CORNERS IN SPACE	None
CONDITION ASSESSMENTS:	
STANDARD PARK BUILT ELEMENTS	fence, bollards good, paving fair, benches poor
SPORTS FACILITIES	same court good
PLAYGROUNDS	metal climbers fair, swing & seesaw unusable
BUILDINGS	-
NATURAL PARK ELEMENTS	grass poor.

PRIMARY SITE ISSUES:

- ☒ Pavement - unfriendly bleak appearance
- ☒ Excessive use of fencing - double rows on 2 sides
- ☒ Playground id abandoned, vandalized and deteriorated from lack of maintenance - Needs total redesign.

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

STANDARD PARK
BUILT ELEMENTS



SITE NO.

	QUANTITY			MATERIALS										CONDITION			LOCATION		MISC.				
	AMOUNT	INADEQUATE #	ADAPTABLE #	WOOD	WOOD & CONCRETE	METAL	STONE	BRICK	CHAIN LINK	LINK CHAIN	BIT. CONCRETE	OTHER	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	UNUSABLE	UNREPAIRABLE (SNOW)		POORLY LOCATED	INAPPROPRIATE	HAZARDOUS	
BENCHES, PARK	0															4	3	1					
BICYCLE RACKS																							
BLEACHERS	1																						
BOLLARDS	7																						
CATCHBASINS	2																						
CURBS																							
DRINKING FOUNTAINS	1																						
DUMPSTERS	1																						
FENCES																							
GAME TABLES																							
LIGHTING																							
PEDESTRIAN:																							
PARKING/ROAD:																							
SPORTS	4																						
MONUMENTS																							
PICNIC TABLES																							
RAILINGS																							
RAMPS																							
SERVICE GATES																							
SIGNS, ENTRY	2																						
STAIRS																							
TRASH RECEPTACLES:																							
WALLS																							
WATER FEATURES																							
OTHER																							

Wires pulled out

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

SPORTS FACILITIES



SITE NO.

	QUANTITY	MATERIALS	CONDITION	LOCATION	MISC.																					
	AMOUNT	ADEQUATE #	INADEQUATE #	SKINNED INFIELD	SODDED INFIELD	STONE DUST	ASPHALT	METAL	GRASS	OTHER	% COVERAGE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	UNUSABLE	UNSATURABLE (SNOW)	WELL LOCATED	POORLY LOCATED	APPLY LOCATED	EVIDENCE OF DAMAGE	LIGHTING	TEAR STAINING	SPREADING	FENCING PRESENT	MISC.
BASKETBALL:																										
SURFACE																										
BACKBOARD/HOOP																										
TENNIS:	1																									
BANBOARD																										
FENCING																										
SURFACE																										
NET POLES	2																									
OTHER COURT:																										
BASEBALL:																										
BACKSTOP																										
INFELD																										
OUTFIELD																										
LITTLE LEAGUE:																										
BACKSTOP																										
INFELD																										
OUTFIELD																										
SOFTBALL:																										
BACKSTOP																										
INFELD																										
OUTFIELD																										
FOOTBALL: FIELD																										
SOCCER: FIELD																										
OTHER FIELD:																										
OTHER FACILITY:																										

one section pulled down

hardwood missing

HP
1
SITE NO.

[illegible]

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

NATURAL PARK
ELEMENTS



SITE NO.

	QUANTITY	CONDITION	LOCATION	MISC.
TREES	QUANTITY EXISTS			
SHRUBS	EXACT COUNT			
TURF	MAINTENANCE REMOVAL			
GROUND COVER	ESTIMATED COUNT			
FLOWER BEDS				
GROUND				
CONTAINER				
WEED SPECIES				
WOODS				
PONDS				
STREAMS				
SPECIAL ECOLOGICAL FEATURE/AREA				

QUANTITY	CONDITION	LOCATION	MISC.
QUANTITY EXISTS			
EXACT COUNT			
ESTIMATED COUNT			
MAINTENANCE REMOVAL			
# COVERAGE			
UNREMOVABLE			
WELL LOCATED			
POORLY LOCATED			
APPROPRIATELY LOCATED			
QUALITY AND APPEARANCE			
ENVIRONMENTAL VALUE			
LANDSCAPE			

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

HP
2

SITE NO.

Neighborhood: HYDE PARK

Site Name: IACANO PLAYGROUND Site Type: Playground

Location: MILTON, READVILLE & FLEET Acreage: 5.03A

Evaluation Team: SF & PH

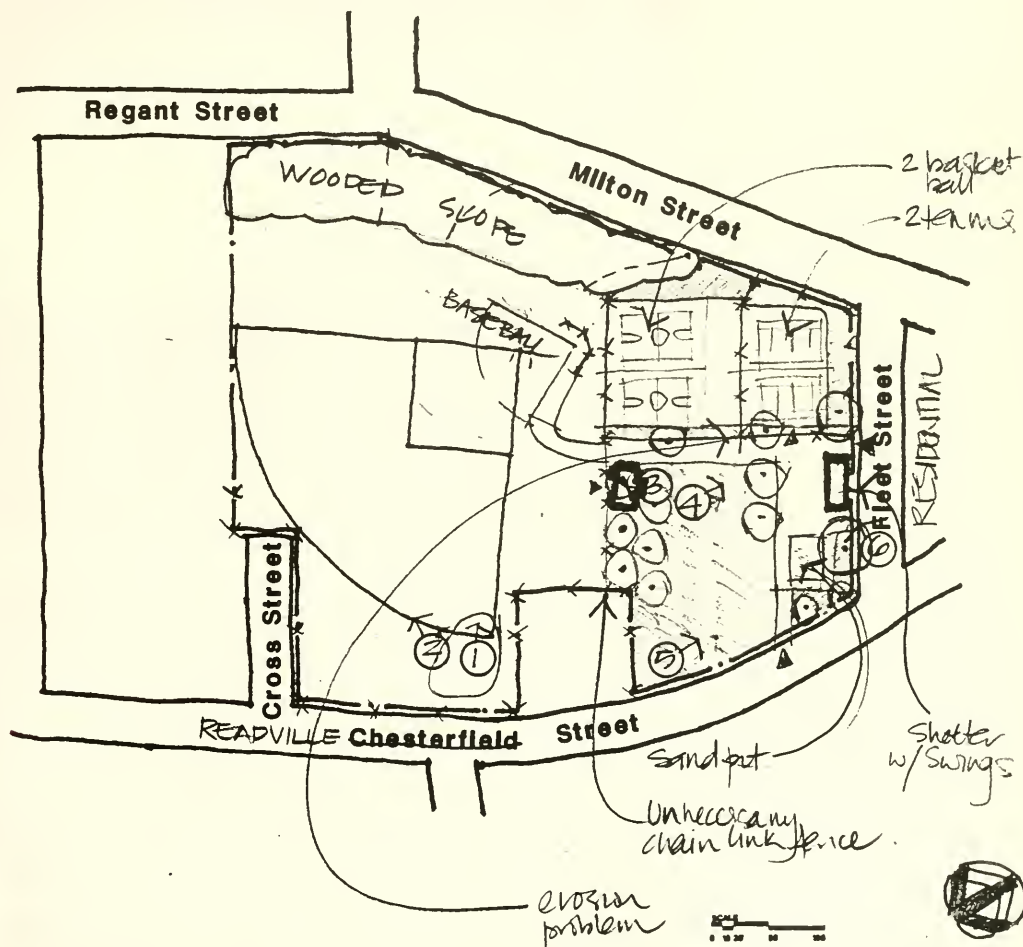
Weather Conditions:

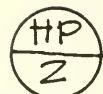
Evaluation Date: 5.1.87

Sunny

Surrounding Land Uses: Residential

Site Plan





SITE NO.



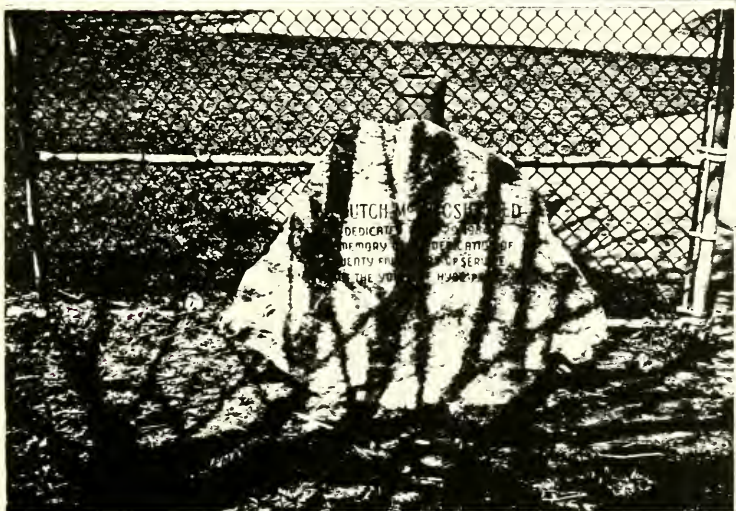
Site Photograph 1

Baseball field - grass and infield well maintained.



Site Photograph 2

Naturally wooded slope an asset to the site. Slope eroding in areas where pedestrians walk up and down.



Site Photograph 3

Memorial.



Site Photograph 4

Erosion problem - water sheet draining off basketball and tennis courts-eroding slope.



Site Photograph 5

Playground - No equipment other than swings.



Site Photograph 6

New swings installed under shelter. Exposed concrete bases of picnic tables and game tables a safety hazard.

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

ENGINEERING
REPORT

HP
2

SITE NO.

Neighborhood: HYDE PARK

Site Name: IACANO PLAYGROUND Site Type: Playground

Location: MILTON, READVILLE & FLEET Acreage: 5.03A

Evaluation Team: SF & PJH

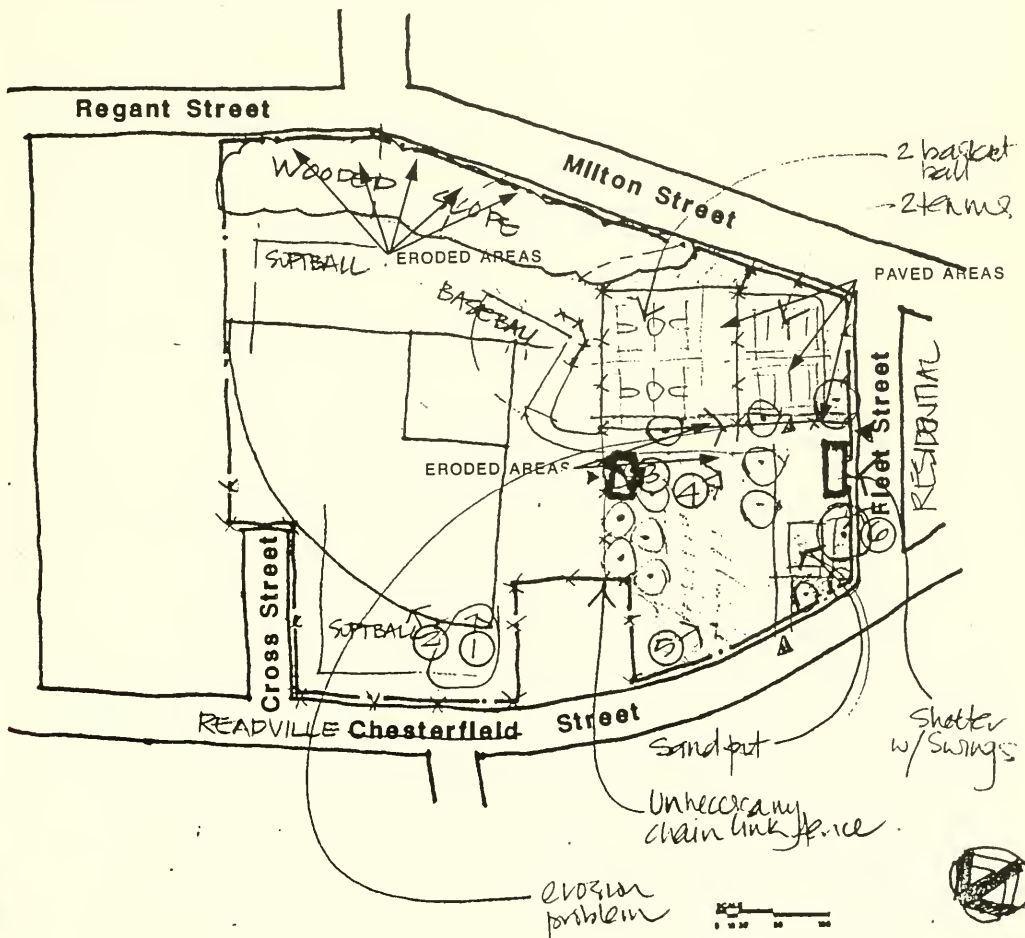
Weather Conditions:

Evaluation Date: 5.1.87

Sunny

Surrounding Land Uses: Residential

Site Plan



Rizzo Associates, Inc.

Engineers and Environmental Scientists

C.H. ☐ _____
P.W. ☐ _____
J.T. ☐ _____

235 West Central Street, Natick, Massachusetts 01760 (617) 651-3401

June 1, 1987

File #

Ms. Elizabeth Vizsa
The Halvorson Company, Inc.
161 Massachusetts Avenue
Boston, MA 02115-3050

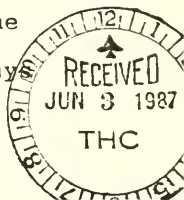
Re: Iacano Playground
Hyde Park, Massachusetts

Dear Ms. Vizsa:

Enclosed please find several pictures and a copy of a site sketch which have been marked to provide visual clarification of the soil erosion at Iacano Playground (the Park). The Park is located in the southwestern portion of the Hyde Park section of the City of Boston. The Park is bordered by Fleet Street in the south, Readville Street in the west, Cross Street in the north, and Milton Street and Neponset Valley Parkway in the east. The Park slopes abruptly from approximately 80 feet Nation Geodetic Vertical Datum to approximately 55 feet NGVD in the eastern portion of the Park while it slopes more gradually from 65 feet NGVD to 55 feet NGVD in the southern portion of the Park.

The specific areas of the Park inspected, per your request, include soil erosion areas beside a bituminous concrete walkway in the southern portion and several areas associated with the wall and slope in the eastern portion of the Park. Soils in the Park appear to consist of a thin layer of topsoil followed by relatively coarse sand and gravel. Extensive areas of the southern portion of the Park are paved with bituminous concrete associated with tennis and basketball courts, children's play areas and walkways. The storm water drainage of these areas appears to be designed to flow to an open area of the park to the immediate northeast and to catchbasins north of the basketball courts. It is presumed that heavy pedestrian traffic stresses the vegetation near the walkway. During heavy rain storm conditions there is sufficient flow over the bituminous concrete covered area to wash away the topsoil and supporting growth. The remaining sand and gravel continues to erode since it does not contain sufficient nutrient-rich topsoil materials to sustain adequate supporting growth.

The volume of pedestrian traffic over the wall and down the slope in the eastern portion of the Park is unclear. The drainage characteristics of the bituminous concrete roadway west of the wall are also unknown. Observations





HP
2

SITE NO.

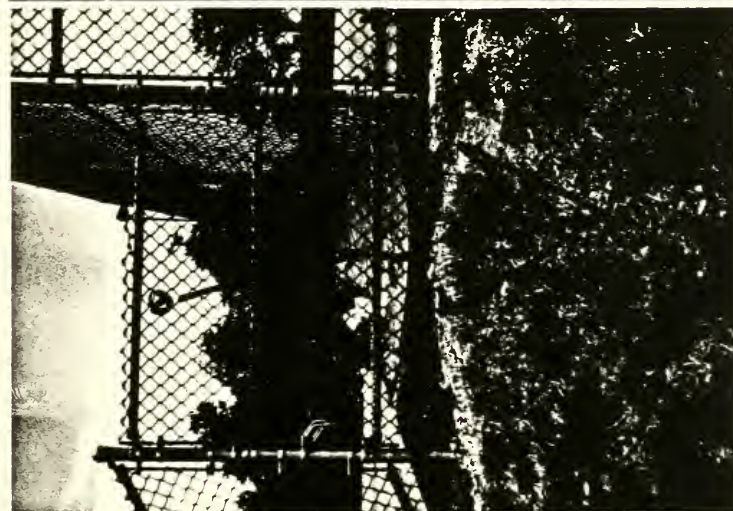
Site Photograph 7

1. Erosion caused by storm-water flow, thin topsoil, stressed vegetation.



Site Photograph 8

1. Crack in tennis court--clean out, fill with cement or bituminous concrete and seal.



Site Photograph 9

1. Tennis court drainage swale.
2. Erosion due to thin topsoil, poor vegetation and stormwater.



Site Photograph 10

1. Soil erosion due to pedestrian traffic, thin topsoil, poor vegetation and storm-water drainage.
2. Loose stone fill under Milton Street and Neponset Valley Parkway.

Site Photograph

Site Photograph

Neighborhood: Hyde Park
Site Name: Iacono Playground
Location: Milton, Readville and Fleet Streets
Acreage: 5.03 A
Site Type: Playground

Site Description:

Iacono Playground is a large trapezoidal park located between Readville, Milton, Regent and Fleet Streets. On the southern edge of the park adjacent to Fleet Street there is an open-air shelter with swings. A sand play area is located west of the shelter and there are tennis courts to the east. Lawns slope up to the north, where there are two basketball courts. Below the basketball courts is a large field area with a baseball field. To the east is a very steep, wooded embankment up to Regent and Milton Streets. Surrounding land uses are residential.

Condition Assessments:

Most standard park-built elements are in good condition, except for a few which are in fair to poor condition. Sports facilities are in good condition, except for some sports lighting which has been vandalized. The swings and sand area are in good condition. Most of the trees in the park are in good condition. The grass in the field sports area is in good condition, but grass beneath the shelter is sparse and in poor condition. Renovations to this park are scheduled by the city.

Major Site Issues:

Iacono Playground is a large park in fairly good condition. Its naturally wooded slope is an asset to the site, adding interest to the topography as well as the vegetation. However, the overall appearance of the park is somewhat barren. Additional tree plantings in groves would promote a more park-like appearance.

Drainage and erosion appear to be major problems in several park areas, especially the slope below Milton Street. Foot traffic up and down the slope has caused major erosion gullies to form.

In the recent resurfacing of the baseball infield, stone dust was used instead of infield mix. Stone dust is quite sharp and can be very abrasive to ball players sliding or falling.

Only exposed footings and concrete bases remain from picnic and game tables that were under the open-air shelter. These should be removed and replaced with new tables.

Neighborhood: Hyde Park

Site Name: Iacano Playground

No.: HP-2

Location: Milton, Readville and Fleet Streets

Acreage: 5.03 A Site Type: Playground

Site Description:

Iacano Playground is a large trapezoidal park located between Readville, Milton, Regant and Fleet Streets. On the south edge of the park adjacent to Fleet Street there is an open-air shelter with swings. A sand play area is located west of the shelter and tennis courts to the east. Lawns slope up to the north where there are two basketball courts. Below the basketball courts is a large field area with a baseball field. To the east is a very steep wooded embankment up to Regant and Milton Streets. Surrounding land uses are residential.

Condition Assessments:

Most standard park built elements are in good condition, except for a few which are in fair to poor condition. Sports facilities are in good condition except for some sports lighting which has been vandalized. The swings and sand area are in good condition. Most of the trees in the park are in good condition. The grass in the field sports area is in good condition, but grass beneath the shelter is sparse and in poor condition. Renovations to numerous park facilities are scheduled by the City.

Major Site Issues:

Iacano Playground is a large park in fairly good condition. Its naturally wooded slope is an asset to the site, adding interest both in the topography as well as the vegetation. However, the overall appearance of the park is somewhat barren. Additional tree plantings in groves would promote a more park-like appearance.

Drainage and erosion appear to be major problems in several park areas, especially the slope below Milton Street. Foot traffic up and down the slope has caused major erosion gullies to form. There is a second area of erosion along the slope west of the tennis courts near the pathway, where small gullies have started to form.

In the recent resurfacing of the baseball infield, stone dust was used instead of infield mix. Stone dust is quite sharp and will be very abrasive to ball players sliding or falling on its surface.

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

SITE SUMMARY

HP
2

SITE NO.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:	holds on lower level, wooded slope left natural condition.
LAYOUT/ORGANIZATION OF SPACE	good - play area, tennis, basketball in main access & parking, ball
USE OF PLANT MATERIALS	limited to shade trees in some areas
APPROPRIATENESS OF PARK FUNCTIONS TO NEIGHBORHOOD	
BARRIER FREE DESIGN	Access from Fleet Street on slope below
DRAINAGE CONDITION	In most areas adequate drainage from tennis courts causing erosion problems
DESIGN-RELATED MAINTENANCE ISSUES	Chain link not in conformance with, erosion of slope by tennis courts
VANDALISM	holes in fence, time wanted on court surface, sports lighting
VACANT PARCEL TO SOUTH, EAST	No
VISIBILITY AND SAFETY:	
VISIBILITY INTO SPACE	Not possible to see all of park at one time due to slope or adjacent
VISIBILITY OUT FROM SPACE	limited by adjacent bldgs
HIDDEN CORNERS IN SPACE	No
CONDITION ASSESSMENTS:	
STANDARD PARK BUILT ELEMENTS	fence, benches, pavement good.
SPORTS FACILITIES	holds & basketball good, tennis fair.
PLAYGROUNDS	Swings good play area limited to sand surface.
BUILDINGS	shelter good
NATURAL PARK ELEMENTS	trees good grass other than sports fields fair to poor
PRIMARY SITE ISSUES:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erosion by tennis court & sloped woodland by Fulton Street caused by foot traffic	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chain link unnecessary across middle of site.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Play area has no equipment other than swings for small children	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> of the neighborhood	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concrete picnic area of picnic tables should be removed from park	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> shelter that is currently being used for storage	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park needs more trees	

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

STANDARD PARK
BUILT ELEMENTS

HP
2

SITE NO.

	QUANTITY		MATERIALS										CONDITION				LOCATION	MISC.			
	AMOUNT	INADEQUATE #	WOOD	WOOD & CONCRETE	METAL	STONE	BRICK	CHAIN LINK	BIT. CONCRETE	OTHER	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	UNUSABLE	UNREPAIRABLE	WELL LOCATED (SNOW)	POORLY LOCATED	INAPPROPRIATE	EXCESSIVE	
BENCHES, PARK	8																				
BICYCLE RACKS	1																				
BLEACHERS	2																				
BOLLARDS	2																				
CATCHBASINS	2																				
CURBS	2																				
DRINKING FOUNTAINS	2																				
DUMPSTERS	2																				
FENCES	2																				
GAME TABLES	2																				
LIGHTING																					
PEDESTRIAN :																					
PARKING/ROAD :																					
SPORTS	9																				
MONUMENTS	1																				
PICNIC TABLES	1																				
RAILINGS																					
RAMPS																					
SERVICE GATES	2																				
SIGNS, ENTRY																					
STAIRS																					
TRASH RECEPTACLES :	3																				
WALLS																					
WATER FEATURES																					
OTHER																					

one section immediately
5m small cable need
repair

under pulled
cmt

> chain missing
replace with block
of concrete.

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

SPORTS FACILITIES

HP
2

SITE NO.

	AMOUNT		ADEQUATE #		INADEQUATE #		QUANTITY		MATERIALS		CONDITION		LOCATION		MISC.	
	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
BASKETBALL:																
SURFACE																
BACKBOARD/HOOP																
TENNIS:																
BANGBOARD																
FENCING																
SURFACE																
NET POLES																
OTHER COURT:																
BASEBALL:																
BACKSTOP																
INFIELD																
OUTFIELD																
LITTLE LEAGUE:																
BACKSTOP																
INFIELD																
OUTFIELD																
SOFTBALL:																
BACKSTOP																
INFIELD																
OUTFIELD																
FOOTBALL: FIELD																
SOCCER: FIELD																
OTHER FIELD:																
OTHER FACILITY:																

cars doing wheelies on pavement graffiti
Goal posts but no benches
vehicles
tools Hardware
Infield covered with stone dust
one corner post down near infield

COURTS

FIELDS

CITY OF BOSTON
PARK EVALUATIONACCESS, CIRCULATION
AND PARKING

SITE NO.

	QUANTITY	MATERIALS	CONDITION	LOCATION	MISC.
BUILDINGS					
RECREATION					
RESTROOM					
STORAGE					
OTHER					
PLAYGROUNDS (GENERAL)					
EQUIPMENT: <i>Swings</i>					
SURFACE					
EDGING					
FENCING					
AGE DISTRIBUTION: No equipment except swings under shelter. Swings too close to elements of destroyed pavilion and game tables.					

	SURFACE CONDITION	MATERIALS	ORGANIZATION	ACCESS	PARKING
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION					
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION					
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS					
VEHICULAR ACCESS					
MAINTENANCE ACCESS					
ACCESS CONTROL: <i>Y's</i>					
PARKING					

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

NATURAL PARK
ELEMENTS



SITE NO.

QUANTITY	CONDITION	LOCATION	MISC.
EXISTS			
QUANTITY			
ESTIMATED COUNT			
MAINTENANCE			
REMOVAL			
# COVERAGE			
UNRAVABLE (SNOW)			
WELL LOCATED			
POORLY LOCATED			
APPROPRIATE			
UNRAVABLE			
STAND			
LAND			
USE			
LAND			
USE			
TREES			
SHRUBS			
TURF			
GROUND COVER			
FLOWER BEDS			
GROUND			
CONTAINER			
WEED SPECIES			
WOODS			
PONDS			
STREAMS			
SPECIAL ECOLOGICAL FEATURE/AREA			

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

HP
3

SITE NO.

Neighborhood: HYDE PARK

Site Name: ROSS PLAYGROUND

Location: WESTMINSTER & AYLES

Evaluation Team: SF & BHT

Evaluation Date: 5.4.07

Surrounding Land Uses: Residential

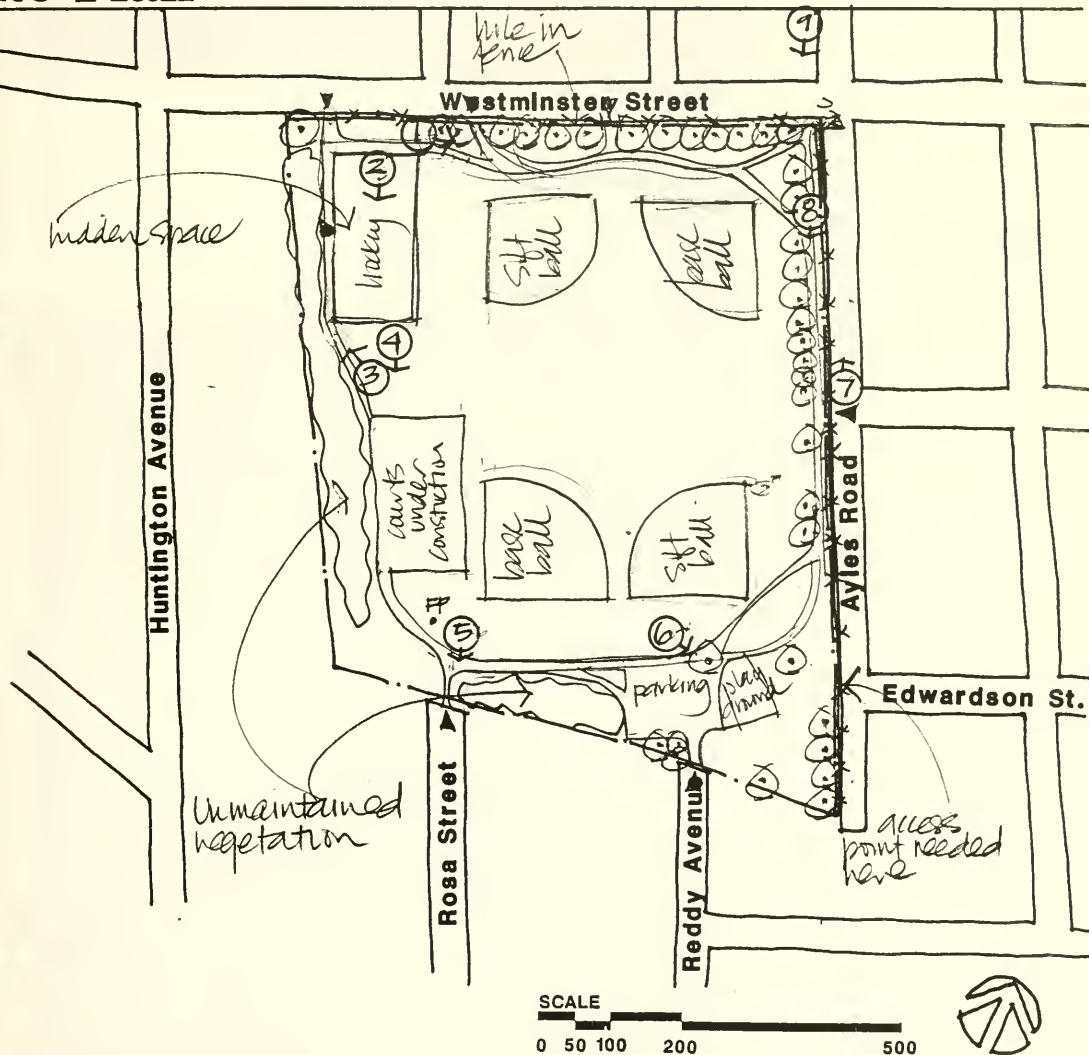
Site Type: Playfield

Acreage: 13.03A

Weather Conditions:

Sunny

Site Plan





SITE NO.



Site Photograph 1

View shows layout of new access route around site.



Site Photograph 2

Street hockey court - graffiti on walls - a hidden space.



Site Photograph 3

One of numerous areas showing evidence of fire. Wall needs repair, trash needs removal.



SITE NO.



Site Photograph 4

Site of proposed new courts.



Site Photograph 5

Access from Rosa Street.



Site Photograph 6

New playground under-
going construction.



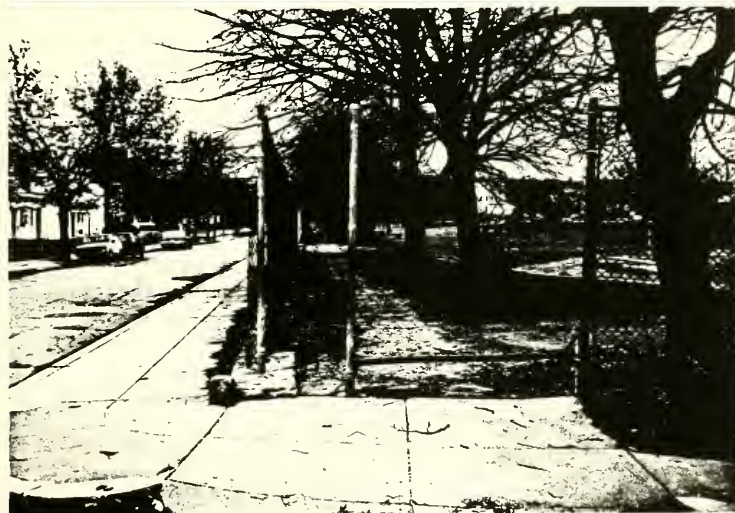
Site Photograph 7

Well-built stone wall
with chain link fence.



Site Photograph 8

Perimeter planting of
Lindens a significant
feature of site. Old
asphalt walkway to
left of trees.



Site Photograph 9

Access points to park
need to be more inviting,
better defined.

Neighborhood: Hyde Park
Site Name: Ross Playground
Location: Westminster Street and Ayles Road
Acreage: 13.03 A
Site Type: Playfield

Site Description:

Ross Playground is a very large open field area developed for active play. It abuts Westminster Street on the north, Ayles Road on the east and residences on the north and west. Two roads, Ross Street and Reddy Avenue, terminate at the western edge of the park. Two softball and baseball fields are laid out in the central area of the park. A parking area is provided at the end of Reddy Avenue. Courts, now under construction, are located along the western edge of the park. A street hockey court is located along the northeastern corner of the park. A linear planting of large linden trees lines the edge of the park along Westminster Street and Ayles Road. Surrounding land uses are residential.

Condition Assessments:

The tennis courts and parking area are scheduled for renovation. The ballfields, pedestrian paving and playground are under reconstruction. Some sections of fencing need repair, but most fencing is in fair to good condition. The hockey court is badly vandalized. The linden trees are mostly in good condition, however they need pruning. The grass in most areas is in very good condition.

Major Site Issues:

Ross Playground illustrates well the negative visual impact made by excessive chain-link fencing. The fencing along the road edges is unnecessarily high and presents an unwelcome appearance. Park entrances are only openings in the fence, and need to be more inviting and better defined. The existing wall along Ayles Road would ~~well~~ serve as an effective barrier here without the additional fencing. An access way along this edge opposite Edwardson Street is needed, as indicated by a hole in the fence. ✓

The planting of linden trees is an outstanding scenic feature of the site, but more trees are needed. Groves of trees could be planted in the many leftover grassy areas to soften and enrich the park around the periphery of the sports facilities.

The park appears to be particularly subject to vandalism, especially fires.

DRAFT

Neighborhood: Hyde Park

Site Name: Ross Playground

No.: HP-3

Location: Westminster Street and Ayles Road

Acres: 13.03 A Site Type: Playfield

Site Description:

Ross Playground is a very large open field area developed for active play. It abuts Westminster Street on the north, Ayles Road on the east and residences on the north and west. Two roads, Ross Street and Reddy Avenue, terminate at the western edge of the park. Two softball and baseball fields are laid out in the central area of the park. A parking area is provided at the end of Reddy Avenue. Courts, now under construction, are located along the western edge of the park. A street hockey court is located along the northeastern corner of the park. A linear planting of large Linden trees lines the edge of the park along Westminster Street and Ayles Road. Surrounding land uses are residential.

Condition Assessments:

The tennis courts and parking area are scheduled for renovation. The ballfields, pedestrian paving and playground are under re-construction. Some sections of fencing need repair, but most fencing is in fair to good condition. The hockey court is badly vandalized. The Linden trees are mostly in good condition, however need pruning. The grass in most areas is in very good condition.

Major Site Issues:

Ross Playground illustrates well the negative visual impact made by excessive chain link fencing. The fencing along the road edges is unnecessarily high and presents an unwelcome appearance. Park entrances are only openings in the fence, and need to be more inviting and better defined. The existing wall along Ayles Road would well serve as an effective barrier here without the additional fencing. An access way along this edge opposite Edwardson Street is needed, as indicated by a hole in the fence.

The planting of Linden trees is an outstanding scenic feature of the site, but more trees are needed. Groves of trees could be planted in the many leftover grassed areas to soften and enrich the park around the periphery of the sports facilities.

The park appears to be particularly subject to vandalism, especially fires.

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

SITE SUMMARY

HP
3

SITE NO.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:	
LAYOUT/ORGANIZATION OF SPACE	edge of park basically well laid out but not ideal to have concrete on inner quad - strong line of trees along waste side edge
USE OF PLANT MATERIALS	
APPROPRIATENESS OF PARK FUNCTIONS TO NEIGHBORHOOD	
BARRIER FREE DESIGN	
DRAINAGE CONDITION	
DESIGN-RELATED MAINTENANCE ISSUES	
VANDALISM	
VACANT PARCEL TO SOUTH, EAST	No
VISIBILITY AND SAFETY:	
VISIBILITY INTO SPACE	Mostly good, although enclosure around hockey obscures view
VISIBILITY OUT FROM SPACE	good
HIDDEN CORNERS IN SPACE	inside hockey court.
CONDITION ASSESSMENTS:	
STANDARD PARK BUILT ELEMENTS	Under construction
SPORTS FACILITIES	Under construction
PLAYGROUNDS	Under construction
BUILDINGS	None
NATURAL PARK ELEMENTS	tree and grass good.

PRIMARY SITE ISSUES:

- ☒ Fencing along waste edge unnecessarily high especially along Aylee Road where existing wall serves as effective barrier
- ☒ Above average evidence of trees by street hockey area
- ☒ Additional access point needed opposite Edmunds St
- ☒ Left-over green edges along residential sides of park corners need more tree planting and/or shrubbery to create a passive use area.
- ☒ Park entrance needs better definition
- ☒ Park under winter thin
- ☒ Playground enclosure - difficult to maintain - safety surface never down hill

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

STANDARD PARK
BUILT ELEMENTS

HP
3

SITE NO.

	QUANTITY	MATERIALS													CONDITION	LOCATION	MISC.							
		AMOUNT	IN ADEQUATE #	IN ADEQUATE #	CONCRETE	WOOD	WOOD & CONCRETE	WOOD & METAL	STONE	BRICK	CHAIN LINK	WINK CHAIN	BIT. CONCRETE	OTHER				EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	UNUSABLE	UNREPAIRABLE (SNOW)	POORLY LOCATED
BENCHES, PARK	19														145									
BICYCLE RACKS	4																							
BLEACHERS	2																							
BOLLARDS	9																							
CATCHBASINS	2																							
CURBS	2																							
DRINKING FOUNTAINS	2																							
DUMPSTERS	1																							
FENCES	1																							
GAME TABLES	1																							
LIGHTING	1																							
PEDESTRIAN:	1																							
PARKING/ROAD:	1																							
SPORTS	21																							
MONUMENTS	1																							
PICNIC TABLES	1																							
RAILINGS	1																							
RAMPS	1																							
SERVICE GATES	1																							
SIGNS, ENTRY	1																							
STAIRS	4																							
TRASH RECEPTACLES:	4																							
WALLS	1																							
WATER FEATURES	1																							
OTHER	1																							
grand total	10																							

4 4 2

10

10

grand total

broken railing and

one closed within 10' of

Barney tree in

graffiti

burning barrel

some graffiti

need repair

SITE NO.

	QUANTITY	MATERIALS	CONDITION	LOCATION	MISC.
	ADEQUATE # ADEQUATE SKINNED INFIELD STONE DUST ASPHALT METAL GRASS OTHER % COVERAGE EXCELLENT GOOD FAIR POOR UNUSABLE WELL LOCATED (SNOW) POORLY LOCATED APPLY LOCATED EVIDENCE PRESERVED LIGHTING OF PRESS TEAM SCHEDULED STANDING PRESENT FENCING PRESENT				
BASKETBALL: Under construction	7				
SURFACE					
BACKBOARD/HOOP					
TENNIS:					
BANGBOARD					
FENCING					
SURFACE					
NET POLES					
OTHER COURT: Street hockey	1			X	burning shed
BASEBALL: under reconstruction	2			X X	
BACKSTOP					
INFIELD					
OUTFIELD					
LITTLE LEAGUE:					
BACKSTOP					
INFIELD					
OUTFIELD					
SOFTBALL: Under Construction	2			X X	
BACKSTOP					
INFIELD					
OUTFIELD					
FOOTBALL: FIELD					
SOCCER: FIELD					
OTHER FIELD:					
OTHER FACILITY:					

HP
3

SITE NO.

	SURFACE CONDITION	MATERIALS	ORGANIZATION	ACCESS	PARKING
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	UNUSABLE
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	UNUSABLE	UNAVAILABLE(SNOW)
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	UNUSABLE	BIT. CONCRETE
VEHICULAR ACCESS	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	UNUSABLE	STONE GRAVEL
MAINTENANCE ACCESS	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	UNUSABLE	OTHER
ACCESS CONTROL:	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	UNUSABLE	WELL ORGANIZED
PARKING	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	UNUSABLE	DESIGNED

under construction

SS, CIRCULATION

PARKING

PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION

VEHICULAR CIRCULATION

PEDESTRIAN ACCESS

VEHICULAR ACCESS

MAINTENANCE ACCESS

ACCESS CONTROL:

ADVERTISING
MAY 11

RECREATION

RESTROOM

STORAGE

OTHER

PLAYGROUNDS (GENERAL)

EQUIPMENT: *under construction.*

SURFACE under

EDGING Construction

FENCING

AGE DISTRIBUTION:

AGE DISTRIBUTION:

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

NATURAL PARK
ELEMENTS

HP
3

SITE NO.

	QUANTITY	CONDITION	LOCATION	MISC.
TREES	EXISTS	QUANTITY	CONDITION <td>MISC.</td>	MISC.
SHRUBS	EXISTS	QUANTITY	CONDITION <td>MISC.</td>	MISC.
TURF	EXISTS	QUANTITY	CONDITION <td>MISC.</td>	MISC.
GROUND COVER	EXISTS	QUANTITY	CONDITION <td>MISC.</td>	MISC.
FLOWER BEDS	EXISTS	QUANTITY	CONDITION <td>MISC.</td>	MISC.
GROUND	EXISTS	QUANTITY	CONDITION <td>MISC.</td>	MISC.
CONTAINER	EXISTS	QUANTITY	CONDITION <td>MISC.</td>	MISC.
WEED SPECIES	EXISTS	QUANTITY	CONDITION <td>MISC.</td>	MISC.
WOODS	EXISTS	QUANTITY	CONDITION <td>MISC.</td>	MISC.
PONDS	EXISTS	QUANTITY	CONDITION <td>MISC.</td>	MISC.
STREAMS	EXISTS	QUANTITY	CONDITION <td>MISC.</td>	MISC.
SPECIAL ECOLOGICAL FEATURE/AREA	EXISTS	QUANTITY	CONDITION <td>MISC.</td>	MISC.

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

HP
4

SITE NO.

Neighborhood: HYDE PARK

Site Name: WEIDER PARK

Location: METROPOLITAN DALE

Evaluation Team: SF & BH

Evaluation Date: 5.4.87

Surrounding Land Uses: RESIDENTIAL, Undeveloped land

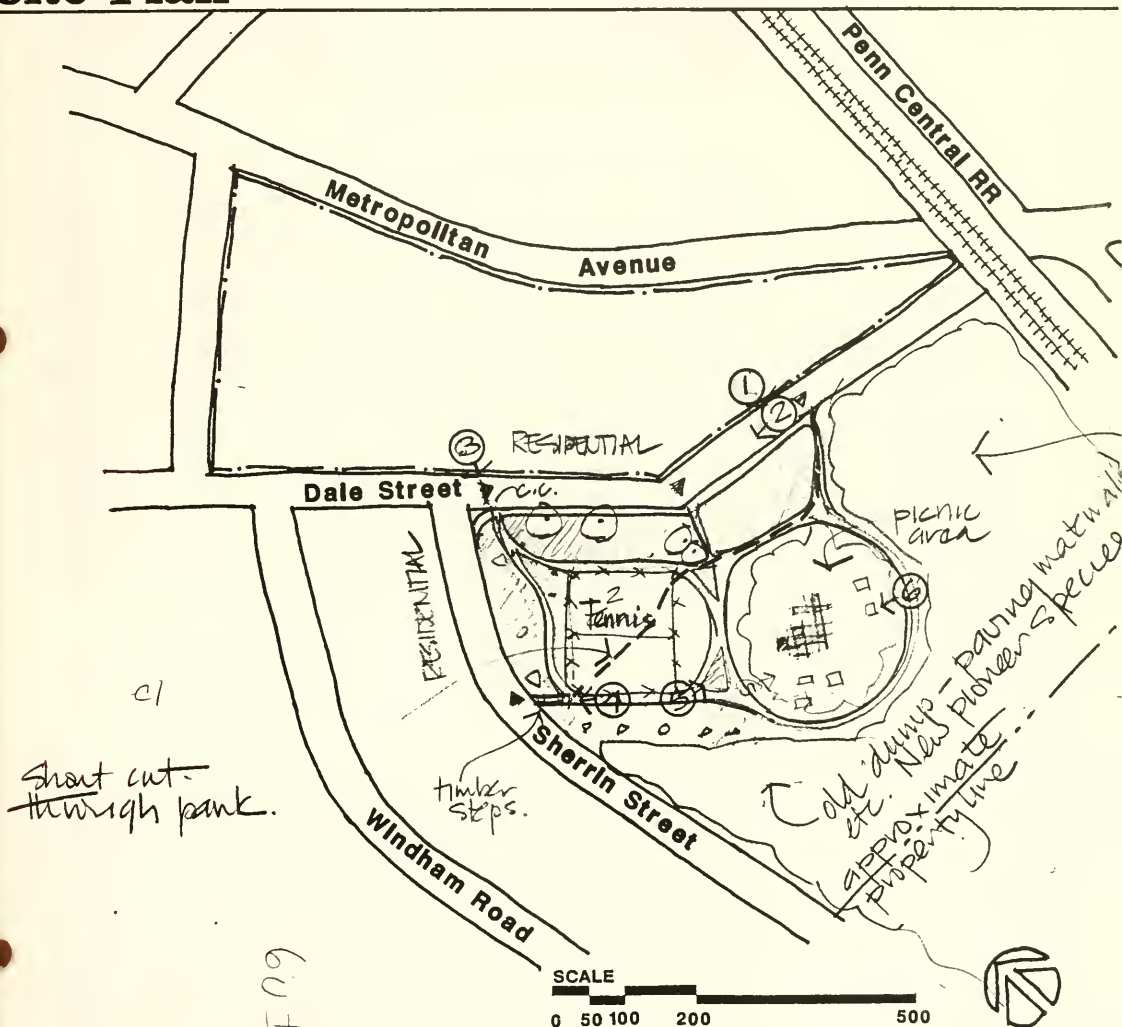
Site Type: Playlot

Acreage: 6.5A.

Weather Conditions:

Sunny

Site Plan





SITE NO.



Site Photograph 1

Entrance to park with
urban wild to right.



Site Photograph 2

Shows location of
park within residential
neighborhood.



Site Photograph 3

Painted boulder used
for access control.
Fencing vandalised.



SITE NO.



Site Photograph 4

Timber steps up to Sherrin Street. Urban wild to left.



Site Photograph 5

View into picnic/play area showing original and planted trees.



Site Photograph 6

Some tree pruning performed - brush not cleared up.

Neighborhood: Hyde Park
Site Name: Weider Park
Location: Sherrin and Dale Streets
Acreage: 6.5 A
Site Type: Playlot

Site Description:

Weider Park is a small site on the corner of Dale and Sherrin Streets. To the south and east is Sherrin Street urban wild, once used for dumping soil and paving materials, and now covered with small trees. Weider Park is lower than the adjacent streets, and many areas that are adjacent to and lower than the park develop ponds in wet weather. A curvilinear path system is laid out around the tennis courts and an adjacent sitting and playground area. The paths are lined with benches and lights. Trees are informally arranged throughout the site. Surrounding land uses are residential.

Condition Assessments:

Most standard park-built elements and paving are in good condition. Many lights and fencing have been vandalized and are in poor condition. The tennis courts are in fair condition, however they cannot be used unless posts and nets are installed. The basketball courts need lines. The surface is starting to deteriorate and will need resurfacing in the near future. Tire swings are missing from the play structure, and a safety surface is needed. The trees and grass are mostly in good condition. However, some areas of grass are poor due to insufficient topsoil being spread over dumped material.

Major Site Issues:

The design of Weider Park has made good use of the site's naturally occurring trees and boulders. The lack of perimeter fencing results in a more friendly and open park character, ~~than the many other fenced parks of the city.~~ Abuse by vehicles does not appear to be a problem here. *del*

The major shortcoming of the park is inadequate maintenance and vandalism, which have caused deterioration. The play structure is in need of repair and the area could use more play equipment.

Neighborhood: Hyde Park

Site Name: Weider Park

No.: HP-4

Location: Sherrin and Dale Streets

Acres: 6.5 A

Site Type: Playlot

Site Description:

Weider Park is a small site on the corner of Dale and Sherrin Streets. To the south and east is Sherrin Street urban wild, once used for dumping soil and paving materials and now covered with small trees. Weider Park is lower than the adjacent streets, and many areas that are adjacent to and lower than the park pond with water in wet weather. A curvilinear path system is laid out around the tennis courts and a picnic area with an adjacent play structure. The paths are lined with benches and lights. Trees are informally arranged throughout the site. Surrounding land uses are residential.

Condition Assessments:

Most standard park built elements and paving are in good condition. Many lights and fencing have been vandalized and are in poor condition. The tennis courts are in fair condition, however cannot be used unless posts and nets are installed. The basketball courts need lines. The surface is starting to deteriorate and will need resurfacing in the near future. Tire swings are missing from the play structure, and a safety surface is needed. The trees and grass are mostly in good condition. However, some areas of grass are poor due to insufficient topsoil being spread over dumped material.

Major Site Issues:

The design of Weider Park has made good use of the site's naturally occurring trees and boulders. The lack of perimeter fencing results in a more friendly and open park character than the many other fenced parks of the City. Abuse by vehicles does not appear to be a problem here.

The major shortcoming of the park is inadequate maintenance and vandalism, which have caused deterioration. The play structure is in need of repair and the area could use more play equipment.

A sign on site identifies the park as M.D.C. land. Clarification of ownership is needed for this park.

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

SITE SUMMARY



SITE NO.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:	
LAYOUT/ORGANIZATION OF SPACE	Well laid out w/ active spaces in front & picnic and play in back.
USE OF PLANT MATERIALS	Existing trees are remaining naturally occurring trees.
APPROPRIATENESS OF PARK FUNCTIONS TO NEIGHBORHOOD	
BARRIER FREE DESIGN	Access from street at corner of Dale & Scherwin & throughout site adequate
DRAINAGE CONDITION	—
DESIGN-RELATED MAINTENANCE ISSUES	—
VANDALISM	evidence of fire, broken concrete benches, holes in fence w/ graffiti.
VACANT PARCEL TO SOUTH, EAST	Old dump area
VISIBILITY AND SAFETY:	
VISIBILITY INTO SPACE	good
VISIBILITY OUT FROM SPACE	good
HIDDEN CORNERS IN SPACE	none
CONDITION ASSESSMENTS:	
STANDARD PARK BUILT ELEMENTS	catch basins, trash receptacles, curb & pavement good, existing poor 11 of 18 benches good, others destroyed. lights mostly good, some vandalized
SPORTS FACILITIES	2 benches w/ good surface & poor fence, No poles
PLAYGROUNDS	1 timber structure torn w/ poor play surface
BUILDINGS	—
NATURAL PARK ELEMENTS	trees, grass, good

PRIMARY SITE ISSUES:

- ☒ Lack of maintenance & vandalism have deteriorated the park & made it unusable w/ use.
- ☒ Design has made good use of naturally occurring trees and boulders
- ☒ Lack of fencing around edge results in more trespassing, usually entering park -
- ☒ Use by vehicles does not seem to be a problem
- ☒ Play ground - timber structure needs maintenance & replacement of missing parts
- ☒ Play area is limited to the area structure. more structures should be installed if indicated by neighbor hood need
- ☒ Is this an allie park?
- ☒ Address the - addressing in future design

HP
4
SITE NO.

1855

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

SPORTS FACILITIES



SITE NO.

COURTS	QUANTITY			MATERIALS			CONDITION			LOCATION			MISC.			
	Amount	Adequate #	Inadequate #	Grass	Metal	Asphalt	Stone Dust	Sodded Infield	Skinned Infield	Unusable	Well Located (Snow)	Applied Located		Lighting	Seating	Fencing Present
BASKETBALL: 2-1/2 courts	2															count for remake from edge of photo
SURFACE																
BACKBOARD/HOOP	2															
TENNIS:																
BANDBOARD																
FENCING Chain Link																few pulled down
SURFACE																
NET POLES removable NOT installed																
OTHER COURT:																
BASEBALL:																
BACKSTOP																
INFIELD																
OUTFIELD																
LITTLE LEAGUE:																
BACKSTOP																
INFIELD																
OUTFIELD																
SOFTBALL:																
BACKSTOP																
INFIELD																
OUTFIELD																
FOOTBALL: FIELD																
SOCCER: FIELD																
OTHER FIELD:																
OTHER FACILITY:																

1 one (1) photo

COURTS

FIELDS

HP
4

SITE NO.

	SURFACE CONDITION	MATERIALS	ORGANIZATION	ACCESS	PARKING
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	UNUSABLE
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION	UNUSABLE	BIT. CONCRETE	CONCRETE	STONE CRASH/	OTHER
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS	UNAVAILABLE	WELL ORGANIZED	DESIGNED	RESPONDS TO	ACCESS POINTS
VEHICULAR ACCESS	UNAVAILABLE	POORLY ORGANIZED	DESIGNED	ACCESS POINTS	ACCESSIBLE
MAINTENANCE ACCESS	UNAVAILABLE	OTHER	DESIGNED	ACCESSIBLE	UNAVAILABLE
ACCESS CONTROL: <i>20 minutes</i>	UNAVAILABLE	CONCRETE	DESIGNED	ACCESSIBLE	UNAVAILABLE
<i>any</i>	UNAVAILABLE	CONCRETE	DESIGNED	ACCESSIBLE	UNAVAILABLE
PARKING	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	UNUSABLE

BUILDINGS	QUANTITY				MATERIALS				CONDITION				LOCATION				MISC.											
	BUILDINGS/ PLAY GROUNDS	ADEQUATE #	ADEQUATE #	INADEQUATE #	METAL	WOOD	METAL & WOOD	CONCRETE	SAND	BARK MULCH	ASPHALT	OTHER	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	UNUSABLE	WELL LOCATED	POORLY LOCATED	APPROX. LOCATED	UNDEVELOPED	EVIDENCE OF	SEATING PRESENT	FENCING PRESENT	SAFE EVIDENT			
RECREATION																												
RESTROOM																												
STORAGE																												
OTHER																												
PLAYGROUNDS (GENERAL)	1																											
EQUIPMENT: 1 wood climber w/ 10' x 10' swing																												
SURFACE dirt																												
EDGING																												
FENCING																												
AGE DISTRIBUTION:	needs fire swings replaced. one timber starting to rot.																											

SITE NO.

QUANTITY	CONDITION	LOCATION	MISC.
QUANTITY EXISTS	EXACT COUNT	ESTIMATED COUNT	MAINTENANCE REMOVAL
60	35	35	70
TREES			
SHRUBS			
TURF			
GROUND COVER			
FLOWER BEDS			
GROUND			
CONTAINER			
WEED SPECIES			
WOODS			
PONDS			
STREAMS			
SPECIAL ECOLOGICAL FEATURE/AREA			

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

HP
19

SITE NO.

Neighborhood: HYDE PARK

Site Name: CLEARY SQUARE

Location: RIVER & HYDE PARK

Evaluation Team: SF & PAT

Evaluation Date: 5.1.87

Surrounding Land Uses: Parking, Commercial.

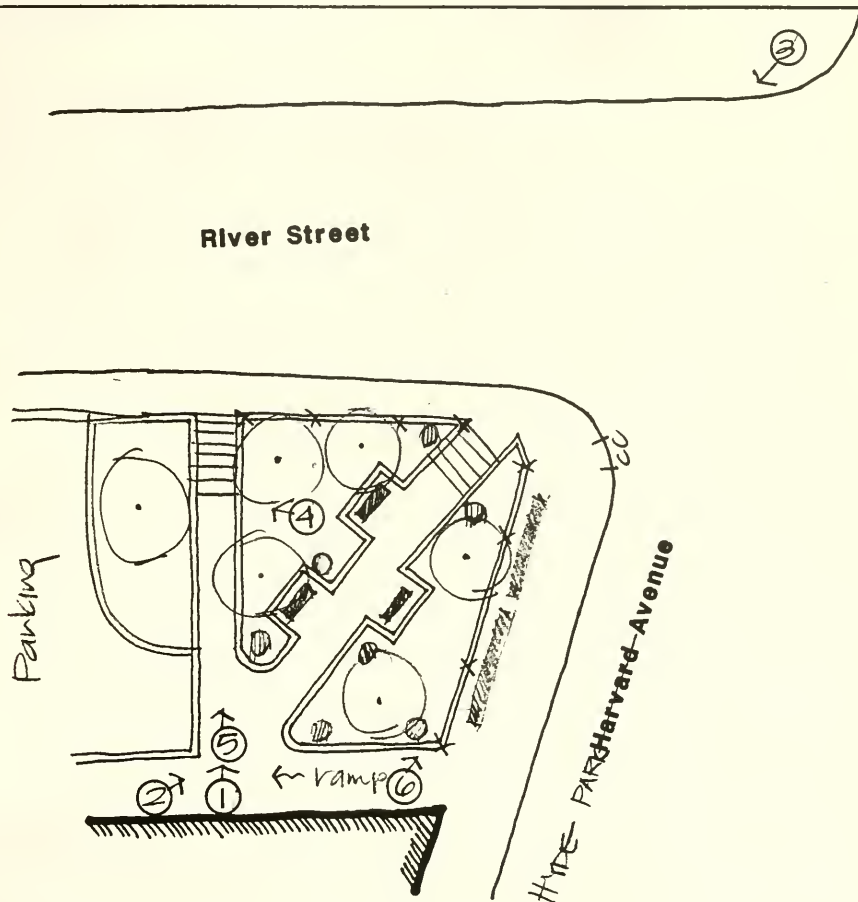
Site Type: *Grass*

Acreage: 0.1 A

Weather Conditions:

Sunny

Site Plan



SCALE

0 5 10 20 50





Site Photograph 1

Shows one set of brick-faced steps and spotty planting. Soil level too low on plant beds.



Site Photograph 2

Planting beds need weeding, mulching and additional planting.

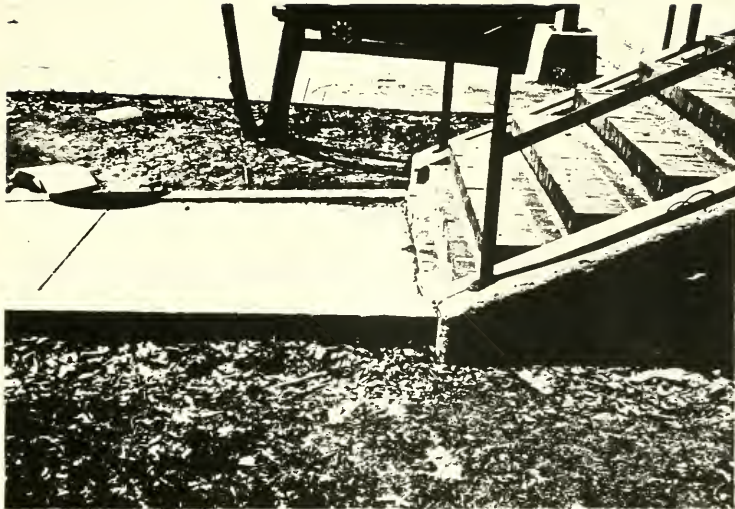


Site Photograph 3

Park not visible from street level. Sign not well located.

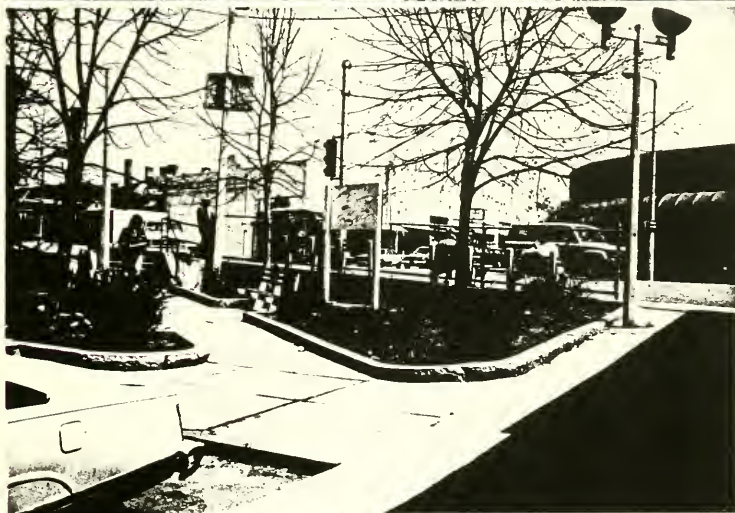
HP
19

SITE NO.



Site Photograph 4

Brick-faced steps -
Bottom step a safety
hazard.



Site Photograph 5

Trash and weeds in
planting bed.



Site Photograph 6

Corner by steps traps
trash. Needs cleaning.

Neighborhood: Hyde Park
Site Name: Cleary Square
Location: River Street and Hyde Park Avenue
Acreage: 0.1 A
Site Type: Square

Site Description:

Cleary Square is a small sitting area at the corner of River Street and Hyde Park Avenue. There are two levels. The main level has benches located lower than the abutting commercial block on the south, and at grade with a parking area on the west. The second level consists of several benches on the Hyde Park Avenue sidewalk. Two sets of stairs, one concrete and one brick-faced, connect the upper and lower levels. Six trees shade the sitting areas. Granite curbs edge the sidewalks of the lower level, and there are grass and shrubs in the curbed planting beds. There is chain-link fencing along the top of the wall bordering the lower level on the north and east.

Condition Assessments:

The sidewalk, curbing, concrete stairs, railing and fencing are in good condition. The seating is mostly in fair condition. One light does not have a fixture. The trees are all in good condition, however the grass and shrubs are in poor condition. The bottom brick step is broken.

Major Site Issues:

The main sitting area of Cleary Square is not visible from street level and the square's identifying sign is deteriorated and not well-located. As a result the sitting area is not inviting or easily used for its intended purpose, but is reportedly used for teenage drinking. City renovation plans include improvements to benches, the roadway, sidewalks, street lights, and traffic signals, as well as the addition of shrubs to enrich what is presently a sparse and spotty planting.

The soil seems to have subsided throughout the lower level. The sidewalk does not meet the bottom of the concrete steps nor does the soil meet the top of the curbs. Additional soil is needed. The bottom step of the brick-faced steps needs repair.

DRAFT

Neighborhood: Hyde Park
Site Name: Cleary Square
Location: River Street and Hyde Park Avenue
Acreage: 0.1 A Site Type: Square

No.: HP-19

Site Description:

Cleary Square is a small sitting area at the corner of River Street and Hyde Park Avenue. There are two levels, the main level with benches located lower than the abutting commercial block on the south and at grade with a parking area on the west. The second level consists of several benches on the Hyde Park Avenue sidewalk. Two sets of stairs, one concrete and one brick-faced, connect the upper and lower levels. Six trees shade the sitting areas. Granite curbs edge the sidewalks of the lower level, and there are grass and shrubs in the curbed planting beds. There is chain link fencing along the top of the wall bordering the lower level on the north and east.

Condition Assessments:

The sidewalk, curbing, concrete stairs, railing and fencing are in good condition. The seating is mostly in fair condition. One light does not have a fixture. The trees are all in good condition, however the grass and shrubs are in poor condition. The bottom brick step is broken.

Major Site Issues:

The main sitting area of Cleary Square is not visible from street level and the square's identifying sign is deteriorated and not well located. As a result the space is not inviting and easily used, and is reportedly used inappropriately for teenage drinking. Renovation plans include removal of benches to solve this problem, as well as additional shrubs to enrich what is presently a sparse and spotty planting.

The soil seems to have subsided throughout the lower level. The sidewalk does not meet the bottom of the concrete steps nor does the soil meet the top of the curbs. Additional soil is needed. The bottom step of the brick-faced steps needs repair.

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

SITE SUMMARY



SITE NO.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:	from street level to parking
LAYOUT/ORGANIZATION OF SPACE	rest of park, surrounding walk to circulation needs of pedestrian
USE OF PLANT MATERIALS	trees for shade, shrubs as screening
APPROPRIATENESS OF PARK FUNCTIONS TO NEIGHBORHOOD	
BARRIER FREE DESIGN	curb cut at street & ramp into site
DRAINAGE CONDITION	adequate 1/2 step at base of 2 sets of stairs a safety hazard
DESIGN-RELATED MAINTENANCE ISSUES	level of soil below curb's underlayment below sidewalk - called back
VANDALISM	wood carving & slats missing on benches
VACANT PARCEL TO SOUTH, EAST	
VISIBILITY AND SAFETY:	
VISIBILITY INTO SPACE	Not good from street level
VISIBILITY OUT FROM SPACE	Good
HIDDEN CORNERS IN SPACE	No
CONDITION ASSESSMENTS:	
STANDARD PARK BUILT ELEMENTS	fence, hedges Pavement & curb's good, benches & steps fair
SPORTS FACILITIES	-
PLAYGROUNDS	-
BUILDINGS	-
NATURAL PARK ELEMENTS	tree doing well, shrubs poor

PRIMARY SITE ISSUES:

- hedges & soil below top of curb cause litter to collect & weeds to grow -
- Failure of shrubs planting resulting in spotty appearance - to be replanted
- Overhang of sidewalk on street level oppressive
- Brick cladding on 1 set of steps out of character with the rest of the site - needs repair at base - safety hazard

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

STANDARD PARK
BUILT ELEMENTS

HP
19

SITE NO.

	QUANTITY		MATERIALS										CONDITION				LOCATION	MISC.				
	AMOUNT	INADEQUATE #	WOOD	WOOD & CONCRETE	METAL	STONE	BRICK	CHAIN LINK	BIT. CHAIN	OTHER	CONCRETE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	UNUSABLE			UNRAILABLE (SNOW)	POORLY LOCATED	APPROXIMATELY LOCATED	EXISTENCE OF
BENCHES, PARK	5																					carry.
BICYCLE RACKS																						
BLEACHERS																						
BOLLARDS																						
CATCHBASINS																						
CURBS																						
DRINKING FOUNTAINS																						
DUMPSTERS																						
FENCES																						
GAME TABLES																						
LIGHTING																						
PEDESTRIAN:	3																					
PARKING/ROAD:																						
SPORTS																						
MONUMENTS																						
PICNIC TABLES																						
RAILINGS																						
RAMPS																						
SERVICE GATES																						
SIGNS, ENTRY	1																					
STAIRS	2																					
TRASH RECEPTACLES:																						
WALLS																						
WATER FEATURES																						
OTHER																						

one brick step needs repair.

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

SPORTS FACILITIES

HP
19

SITE NO.

	QUANTITY		MATERIALS		CONDITION										LOCATION		MISC.				
	ADEQUATE #	INADEQUATE #	SKINNED INFIELD	STONE DUST	METAL	GRASS	OTHER	% COVERAGE	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	UNUSABLE	WELL LOCATED (SNOW)	POORLY LOCATED	EVIDENCE OF VANDALISM		TEAR SEALING PRESENT	TEAR SEALING PRESENT	SPOTTING PRESENT	FENCING PRESENT
BASKETBALL:																					
SURFACE																					
BACKBOARD/HOOP																					
TENNIS:																					
BANGBOARD																					
FENCING																					
SURFACE																					
NET POLES																					
OTHER COURT:																					
BASEBALL:																					
BACKSTOP																					
INFIELD																					
OUTFIELD																					
LITTLE LEAGUE:																					
BACKSTOP																					
INFIELD																					
OUTFIELD																					
SOFTBALL:																					
BACKSTOP																					
INFIELD																					
OUTFIELD																					
FOOTBALL: FIELD																					
SOCCER: FIELD																					
OTHER FIELD:																					
OTHER FACILITY:																					

COURTS

FIELDS

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

PLAYGROUNDS

ACCESS, CIRCULATION
AND PARKING

HP
19

SITE NO.

QUANTITY	MATERIALS	CONDITION	LOCATION	MISC.
BUILDINGS	RECREATION			
	RESTROOM			
	STORAGE			
	OTHER			
PLAYGROUNDS (GENERAL)				
EQUIPMENT:				
SURFACE				
EDGING				
FENCING				
AGE DISTRIBUTION:				

QUANTITY	MATERIALS	CONDITION	ACCESS	PARKING
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION	RECREATION			
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION	RESTROOM			
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS	STORAGE			
VEHICULAR ACCESS	OTHER			
MAINTENANCE ACCESS*				
ACCESS CONTROL:*				
PARKING				

* see 1955 plan

HP
19
SITE NO

SITE NO

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

HP
47

SITE NO.

Neighborhood: HYDE PARK

Site Name: MOTHERBROOK II

Location: RESERVATION

Evaluation Team:

Evaluation Date:

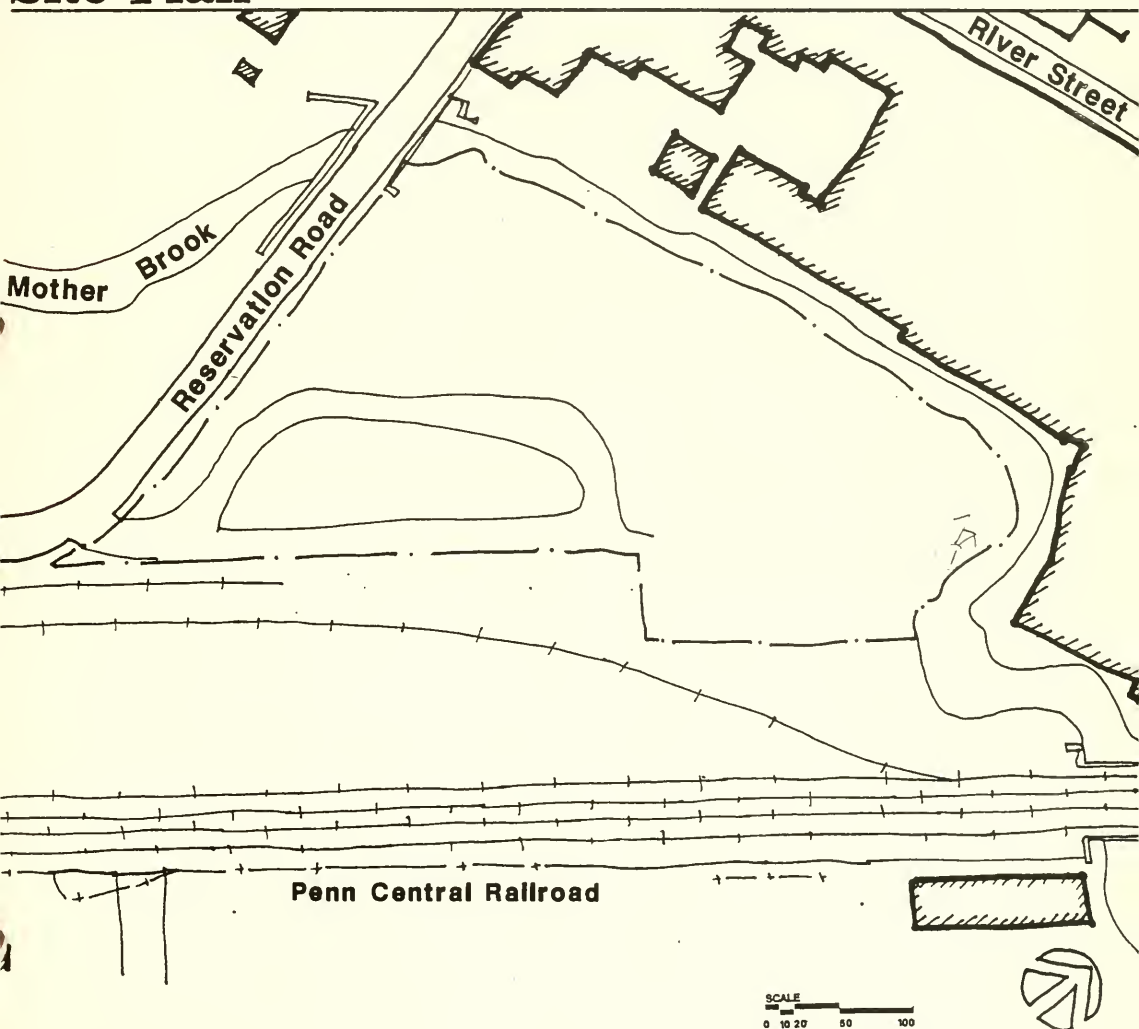
Surrounding Land Uses:

Site Type:

Acreage: 5.96 A

Weather Conditions:

Site Plan



Neighborhood: Hyde Park
Site Name: Motherbrook II and III
Location: Reservation Road
Acreage: 5.96 A and 4.46 A
Site Type: Urban Wild

Site Description:

Motherbrook II and III are two adjacent urban wilds that function as one site. Therefore, they are treated here as one. The site is irregular in shape and abuts the Conrail railroad tracks on the east and the meandering alignment of Motherbrook on the west. Reservation Road defines part of this western boundary. Industrial uses surround the site on the north, south and west. Most of Motherbrook III is a high plateau of gravelly fill and building foundations next to the railroad. This site consists of rock outcroppings which slope up from Mother Brook to the abutment of Reservation Road. There are natural woodlands and blueberry thickets along this slope. There is also some dumping evident from Reservation Road, as well as composting and dumping at the southernmost extent of the site.

Major Site Issues:

Because of Motherbrook II and III's proximity to both the railroad and industrial areas, along with its limited extent of natural areas, much of the site has little potential as a passive or active recreational area.

The water's edge has the greatest scenic and recreational potential, relatively undisturbed and characterized by native plants in the area of Motherbrook III. Long-range plans by the MDC call for the development of a reservation corridor along the brook. The city should work in collaboration with the MDC concerning the scope and impact of this development, particularly where city land is concerned.

The attractive woodland west of Reservation Road and adjacent to the river should be cleaned up and protected as a natural area.

Use of the area for storage of composting materials seems appropriate. That material, however, should be kept well away from the river and not plowed toward the water.

DRAFT

Neighborhood: Hyde Park

Site Name: Motherbrook II and III

No.: HP-47

Location: Reservation Road

HP-48

Acreage: 5.96 A and 4.46 A

Site Type: Urban Wild

Site Description:

Motherbrook II and III are two adjacent urban wilds that function as one site. Therefore, they are treated here as one. The site is irregular in shape and abuts the Conrail railroad tracks on the east and the meandering alignment of Mother Brook on the west. Reservation Road defines part of this western boundary. Industrial uses surround the site on the north, south and west. Most of Motherbrook, III is a high plateau of gravelly fill and building foundations next to the railroad. This site consists of rock outcroppings which slope up from Mother Brook to the abutment of Reservation Road. There are natural woodlands and blueberry thickets along this slope. There is also some dumping evident from Reservation Road as well as composting and dumping at the southernmost extent of the site.

Major Site Issues:

Because of Motherbrook II and III's proximity to both the railroad and industrial areas, along with its limited extent of natural areas, much of the site has little potential as a passive or active recreational area.

The water's edge has the greatest scenic and recreational potential, relatively undisturbed and characterized by native plants in the area of Motherbrook III. Long-range plans by the M.D.C. call for the development of a reservation corridor along the brook. The City should work in collaboration with the M.D.C. in realizing this objective, particularly here where City land is concerned.

The attractive woodland west of Reservation Road and adjacent to the river should be cleaned up and protected as a natural area.

Use of the area for storage of composting materials seems appropriate. That material, however, should be kept well away from the river and not plowed toward the water.

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

URBAN WILDS

HP
47

SITE NO.

	SITE PROBLEMS										SITE NEEDS																
	EXISTS	PRIMARY ECOLOGICAL	PRIMARY	SECONDARY	DUMPING	USE	INDUSTRIAL	INVASIVE SPECIES	POOR PATH ACCESS	VISIBILITY PROBLEMS	EVIDENCE OF FIRE	OTHER VANDALISM	ROAD SALINITY	ROAD	INTRUSION	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	TRASH REMOVAL	VEGETATION REMOVAL	VEGETATION THINNING	MOVING PLANTING	ACCESS	CLARIFICATION	PATH DEVELOPMENT	WATER QUALITY	OTHER
WETLAND																											
WOODLAND																											
MEADOW																											
WATERFRONT																											
POND																											
STREAM																											
ROCK OUTCROP																											
OTHER																											
SITE PROBLEMS																											
DEGREE OF DISTURBANCE																											
SITE NEEDS																											
EVIDENCE OF RECENT																											
SITE IMPROVEMENTS																											
EVIDENCE OF USE:																											
TYPE OF URBAN WILD:																											

Extension of Harborwalk III site - these have been surveyed
as one site (see Harborwalk III for assessments)

site number	site name	district	address	ward
14-20	Mother Brook II	Hyde Park	Reservation Road	18
	ownership Penn Central Private	size 260,000 s.f. 5.96 acres	elevation low pt. 50' high pt. 84'	zoning M-1

1. Natural characteristics:

Brook, wooded banks and adjacent vacant lot.

2. Visual characteristics:

The architecturally interesting industrial buildings forms an interesting backdrop for a wooded riverbank landscape.

3. Diversity within site:

Brook and trees.

4. Characteristics:

primary Brook
secondary Shrubs and trees
tertiary

5. Surrounding environment:

Industrial and commercial.

6. Accessibility:

Directly accessible from Reservation Road.

7. Condition of site:

Good; most parts of the site are in good condition, except the flat vacant lot.

8. Potential development:

High; flat part of the site is suitable for development.

9. Significance of site:

The site is an important segment of the proposed Mother Brook/ Neponset River Corridor.

10. Date surveyed:

Comments:

The site was recommended for MDC acquisition by BRA in May 1975

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

HP
48

SITE NO.

Neighborhood: HYDE PARK

Site Name: MOTHERBROOK III & II

Location: RESERVATION

Evaluation Team: SF & BIT

Evaluation Date: 5.15.87

Surrounding Land Uses: Industrial, Railroad

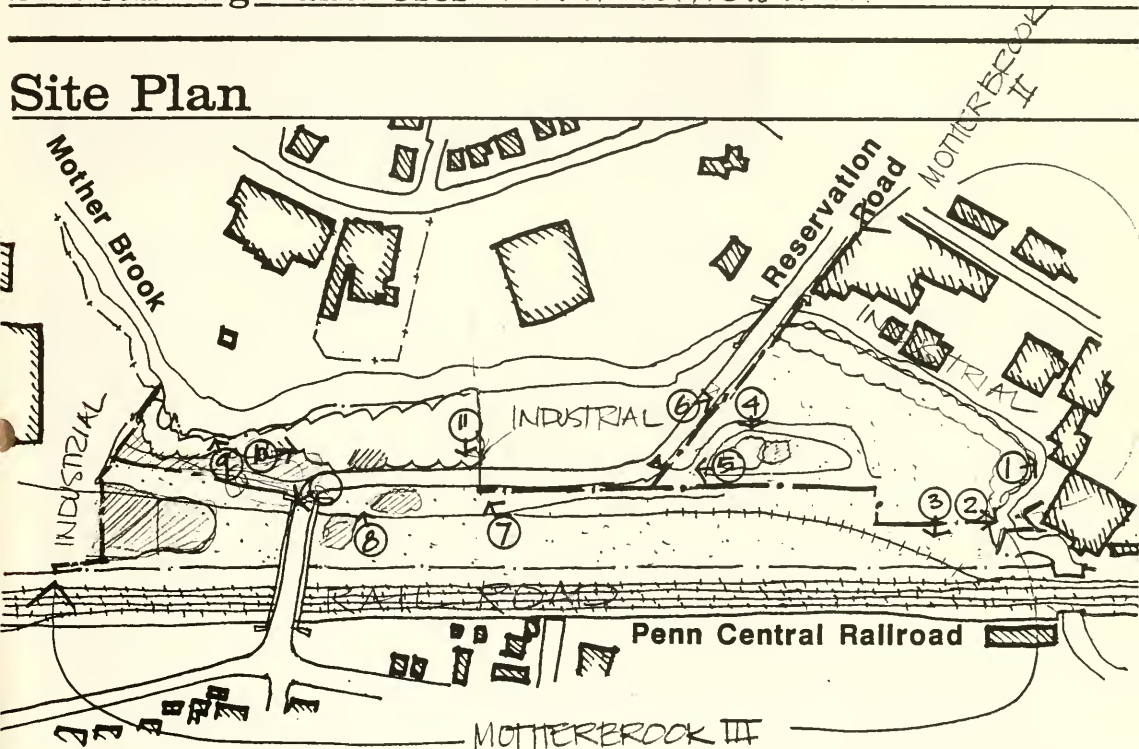
Site Type: Urban wilds

Acreage: 4.46 A ±

Weather Conditions:

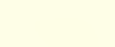
cloudy

Site Plan



SCALE
0 50 100 200 500

KEY



edge of
wooded area
area of dumping
gravel fill area,
level



Site Photograph 1

Industrial view from
edge of Mother Brook.



Site Photograph 2

Scenic view of bend
in the river.



Site Photograph 3

View looking east
from site towards
railroad tracks.



SITE NO.

**Site Photograph 4**

Dumping of granite pieces in center of site.

**Site Photograph 5**

View across towards Reservation Road overpass. Vehicular access to site blocked off at right. Remains of old bus.

**Site Photograph 6**

View into Motherbrook II site from Reservation Road.

HP
48

SITE NO.



Site Photograph 7

Access way blocked by
dumped material.



Site Photograph 8

Piles of dumped fill.



Site Photograph 9

View of Mother Brook
from Mother Brook III.



SITE NO.

Site Photograph 10

Native plant materials thriving along edge of brook.

Site Photograph 11

Dumped trash from off Reservation Road.

Site Photograph 12

View from bridge showing stockpiles of wood chips and rotted leaves.

Neighborhood: Hyde Park
Site Name: Motherbrook II and III
Location: Reservation Road
Acreage: 5.96 A and 4.46 A
Site Type: Urban Wild

Site Description:

Motherbrook II and III are two adjacent urban wilds that function as one site. Therefore, they are treated here as one. The site is irregular in shape and abuts the Conrail railroad tracks on the east and the meandering alignment of Motherbrook on the west. Reservation Road defines part of this western boundary. Industrial uses surround the site on the north, south and west. Most of Motherbrook III is a high plateau of gravelly fill and building foundations next to the railroad. This site consists of rock outcroppings which slope up from Mother Brook to the abutment of Reservation Road. There are natural woodlands and blueberry thickets along this slope. There is also some dumping evident from Reservation Road, as well as composting and dumping at the southernmost extent of the site.

Major Site Issues:

Because of Motherbrook II and III's proximity to both the railroad and industrial areas, along with its limited extent of natural areas, much of the site has little potential as a passive or active recreational area.

The water's edge has the greatest scenic and recreational potential, relatively undisturbed and characterized by native plants in the area of Motherbrook III. Long-range plans by the MDC call for the development of a reservation corridor along the brook. The city should work in collaboration with the MDC concerning the scope and impact of this development, particularly where city land is concerned.

The attractive woodland west of Reservation Road and adjacent to the river should be cleaned up and protected as a natural area.

Use of the area for storage of composting materials seems appropriate. That material, however, should be kept well away from the river and not plowed toward the water.

DR/

Neighborhood: Hyde Park

Site Name: Motherbrook II and III

No.: HP-47

Location: Reservation Road

HP-48

Acreage: 5.96 A and 4.46 A Site Type: Urban Wild

Site Description:

Motherbrook II and III are two adjacent urban wilds that function as one site. Therefore, they are treated here as one. The site is irregular in shape and abuts the Conrail railroad tracks on the east and the meandering alignment of Mother Brook on the west. Reservation Road defines part of this western boundary. Industrial uses surround the site on the north, south and west. Most of Motherbrook III is a high plateau of gravelly fill and building foundations next to the railroad. This site consists of rock outcroppings which slope up from Mother Brook to the abutment of Reservation Road. There are natural woodlands and blueberry thickets along this slope. There is also some dumping evident from Reservation Road as well as composting and dumping at the southernmost extent of the site.

Major Site Issues:

Because of Motherbrook II and III's proximity to both the railroad and industrial areas, along with its limited extent of natural areas, much of the site has little potential as a passive or active recreational area.

The water's edge has the greatest scenic and recreational potential, relatively undisturbed and characterized by native plants in the area of Motherbrook III. Long-range plans by the M.D.C. call for the development of a reservation corridor along the brook. The City should work in collaboration with the M.D.C. in realizing this objective, particularly here where City land is concerned.

The attractive woodland west of Reservation Road and adjacent to the river should be cleaned up and protected as a natural area.

Use of the area for storage of composting materials seems appropriate. That material, however, should be kept well away from the river and not plowed toward the water.

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

URBAN WILDS

SITE NO.

	SITE PROBLEMS										SITE NEEDS										
	EXISTS	PRIOR SCENIC	PRIOR INDUSTRIAL	INVASIVE SPECIES	POOR PATH ACCESS	VISIBILITY PROBLEMS	EVIDENCE OF FIRE	OTHER VANDALISM	ROAD SALINITY	OTHER	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	TRASH REMOVAL	VEGETATION REMOVAL AND FOR PLANTING	MOWING	ACCESS	PATH DEVELOPMENT	WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT	OTHER	
WETLAND																					
WOODLAND																					
MEADOW																					
WATERFRONT																					
POND																					
STREAM <i>edge</i>																					
ROCK OUTCROP																					
OTHER																					
SITE PROBLEMS																					
DEGREE OF DISTURBANCE																					
SITE NEEDS																					
EVIDENCE OF RECENT SITE IMPROVEMENTS																					
EVIDENCE OF USE:																					

TYPE OF URBAN WILD:

☒ Because of proximity to railroad and adjacent industrial areas, this site has limited value as a preserve or active recreation area. The river's edge has the most potential, being relatively undisturbed & being characterized by native plant material in the bottomland III site, and showing some industrial landscape at the more northern end of the site. Current use as a storage area for mulched material is appropriate.

number	site name	district	address	ward
4-21	Mother Brook III	Hyde Park	River Street	18
	ownership	size	elevation	zoning
	nn Central; Dedham Mills Inc;	202,500 s.f.	low pt. 46'	
	perior Carpet Inc; Julio John Trst.	4.46 acres	high pt. 57'	M-1

Natural characteristics:

Brook, the banks covered with young trees and various kinds of shrubs.

Visual characteristics:

Wooded river embankment confined by adjacent industrial and commercial buildings.

Diversity within site:

Brook, trees and shrubs.

Characteristics:

primary	Brook
secondary	Shrubs and trees
tertiary	

Surrounding environment:

Industrial and commercial.

Accessibility:

From River Street through Singer Sales Co. property and directly accessible from Reservation Road.

Condition of site:

Fair; there is a dumping problem along the riverbanks. Some trees should be pruned and underbrush cleared.

Potential development:

High; the site is endangered by further expansion of industrial uses.

Significance of site:

The site is one of the few remaining natural areas along the river.

Surveyed:

Comments:

The site is an important segment of Mother Brook/Neponset River Corridor and it was recommended for MDC acquisition.

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

HP
55

SITE NO.

Neighborhood: HYDE PARK

Site Name: SHERRIN STREET

Site Type: Urban

Location: SHERRIN, AUSTIN, MARSTON

Acreage: 30.21A

Evaluation Team: F + B +

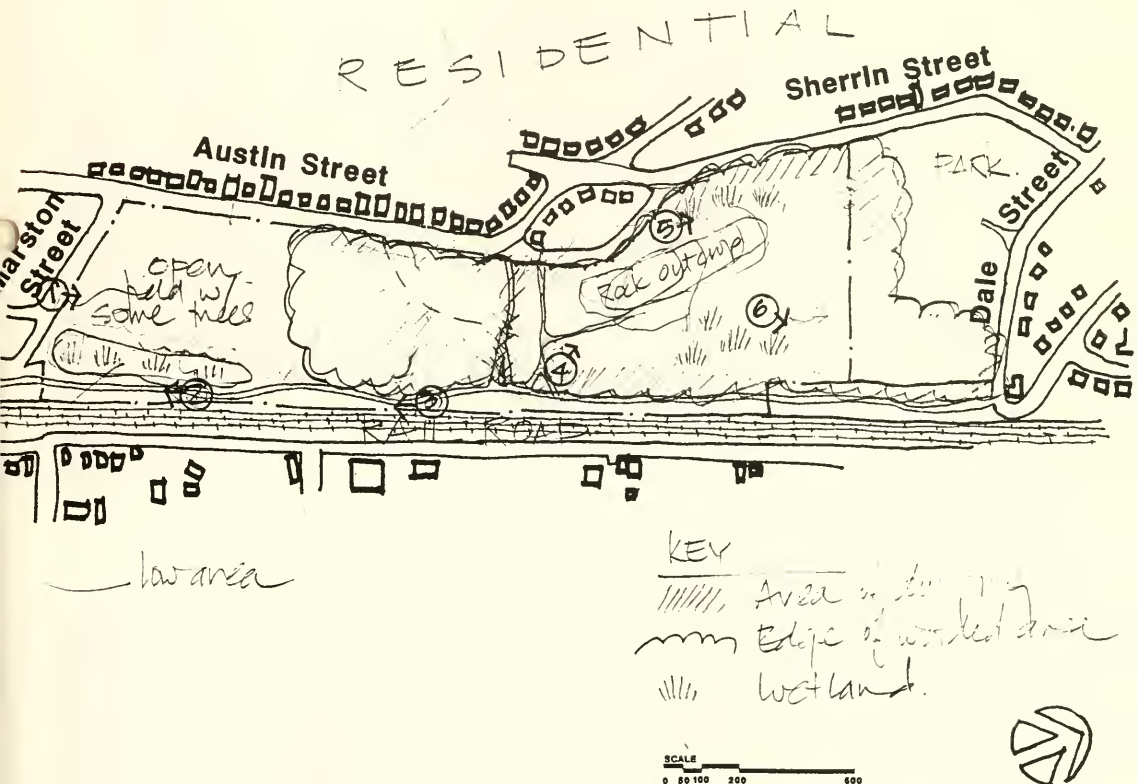
Weather Conditions:

Evaluation Date: 5.15.87

Good

Surrounding Land Uses: Residential. Railroad.

Site Plan





SITE NO.



Site Photograph 1

View looking north
across meadow of
site.



Site Photograph 2

Pathway along edge
of railway. Crabapples
thriving to right.



Site Photograph 3

Evidence of fire and
dumped trash.



SITE NO.



Site Photograph 4

Rock outcrop in center
of site a focal point.



Site Photograph 5

Typical view looking
into woods.



Site Photograph 6

Typical view looking
into wetland.

Neighborhood: Hyde Park
Site Name: Sherrin Street
Location: Sherrin, Austin and Marston Streets
Acreage: 30.21 A
Site Type: Urban Wild

Site Description:

Sherrin Street is an elongated, irregular parcel of land between the Conrail railroad tracks to the east, and Austin and Sherrin Streets to the west. The park abuts Marston Street on the south and Weider Park on the north. In the center of the site is a long rocky ridge with gravel deposits and a natural woodland. Between this ridge and Sherrin Street is a small swampy area. South of the ridge is a large, partially wooded area completely covered with dumped fill. A very small marsh remains in the southeastern corner of the site. North of the central ridge are small swampy areas and dumped soil and debris.

Major Site Issues:

Because Sherrin Street has been so severely disturbed by dumping, it has lost much of its original ecological integrity. However, there are outstanding scenic areas, particularly the rock outcropping in the center of the site. A pathway system could be developed to facilitate access through the site and to the most outstanding natural features of the site. Small natural woodlands and the rocky ridge can be improved for passive use. The extensive areas of filled land might provide areas for sports field development. If so, a means of consolidating and compacting the fill should be studied to prevent uneven settlement.

DR. J. T.

Neighborhood: Hyde Park

Site Name: Sherrin Street

No.: HP-55

Location: Sherrin, Austin and Marston Streets

Acres: 30.21 A Site Type: Urban Wild

Site Description:

Sherrin Street is an elongated, irregular parcel of land between the Conrail railroad tracks to the east and Austin and Sherrin Streets to the west. The park abuts Marston Street on the south and Weider Park on the north. In the center of the site is a long rocky ridge with gravel deposits and a natural woodland. Between this ridge and Sherrin Street is a small swampy area. South of the ridge is a large, partially wooded area completely covered with dumped fill. A very small marsh remains in the southeast corner of the site. North of the central ridge are small swampy areas and dumped soil and debris.

Major Site Issues:

Because Sherrin Street has been so severely disturbed by dumping, it has lost much of its original ecological integrity. However, there are outstanding scenic areas, particularly the rock outcropping in the center of the site. A pathway system could be developed to facilitate access through the site and to special places. Small natural woodlands and the rocky ridge can be improved for passive use. The extensive areas of filled land might provide areas for sports field development, if this need were indicated by the neighborhood. If so, a means of consolidating and compacting the fill should be studied to prevent uneven settlement.

CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

URBAN WILDS

SITE NO.



	SITE PROBLEMS												SITE NEEDS											
	EXISTS	PRIMARY ECOLOGICAL	DUPLICATE	PRIOR INDUSTRIAL	INVASIVE SPECIES	POOR PATH ACCESS	VISIBILITY SYSTEM	EVIDENCE OF FIRE	OTHER VANDALISM	ROAD SALINITY	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	TRASH REMOVAL	VEGETATION REMOVAL	VEGETATION PLANTING	ACCESS	PATH DEVELOPMENT	WATER DEVELOPMENT	OTHER	OTHER	OTHER	OTHER	
WETLAND	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
WOODLAND	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
MEADOW	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
WATERFRONT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
POND	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
STREAM	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
ROCK OUTCROP	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
OTHER	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SITE PROBLEMS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
DEGREE OF DISTURBANCE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
SITE NEEDS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
EVIDENCE OF RECENT SITE IMPROVEMENTS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
EVIDENCE OF USE:	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
TYPE OF URBAN WILD:	Woodland, meadow, rock outcroppings																							

Pathway system could be developed through site to provide
landmark access through site and to centrally located park
outcropping

Proactive site has been so severely disturbed, it could be developed
into sports facility if needed by surrounding neighborhood. Increase
of preexisting wetlands in area and dumping. Significant
collisions may occur. Subsurface investigation should be undertaken prior to development.

Dumping continues to occur along edge.

ownership
Commonwealth of Mass.;
Sevenel Co., Inc.

size
1,316,018 s.f.
30.21 acres

elevation
low pt. 38'
high pt. 81'

zoning
R-5, S-5

1. Natural characteristics:

Rock outcropping, woods, open field, wetland.

2. Visual characteristics:

Two distinct visual areas, the outcropping and woodland, and the dumping area.

3. Diversity within site:

Rock outcropping, woods, vacant lot, wetland, dumping area.

4. Characteristics:

primary

Forty-foot high rock outcropping.

secondary

Large open space contiguous with rock outcroppings.

tertiary

Dumping area.

5. Surrounding environment:

Residential, Penn Central Railroad right-of-way.

6. Accessibility:

Directly accessible from Sherrin Street.

7. Condition of site:

Rocks are in good condition, the rest of the site is in poor condition due to considerable dumping.

8. Potential development:

High; open space could be developed easily.

9. Significance of site:

The outcropping is located in what was originally the Stony Brook valley. This is a relatively unique geologic occurrence.

10. Date surveyed:

November, 1974

11. Comments:

MDC has recently constructed a park facility in the norther section of the site.

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CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

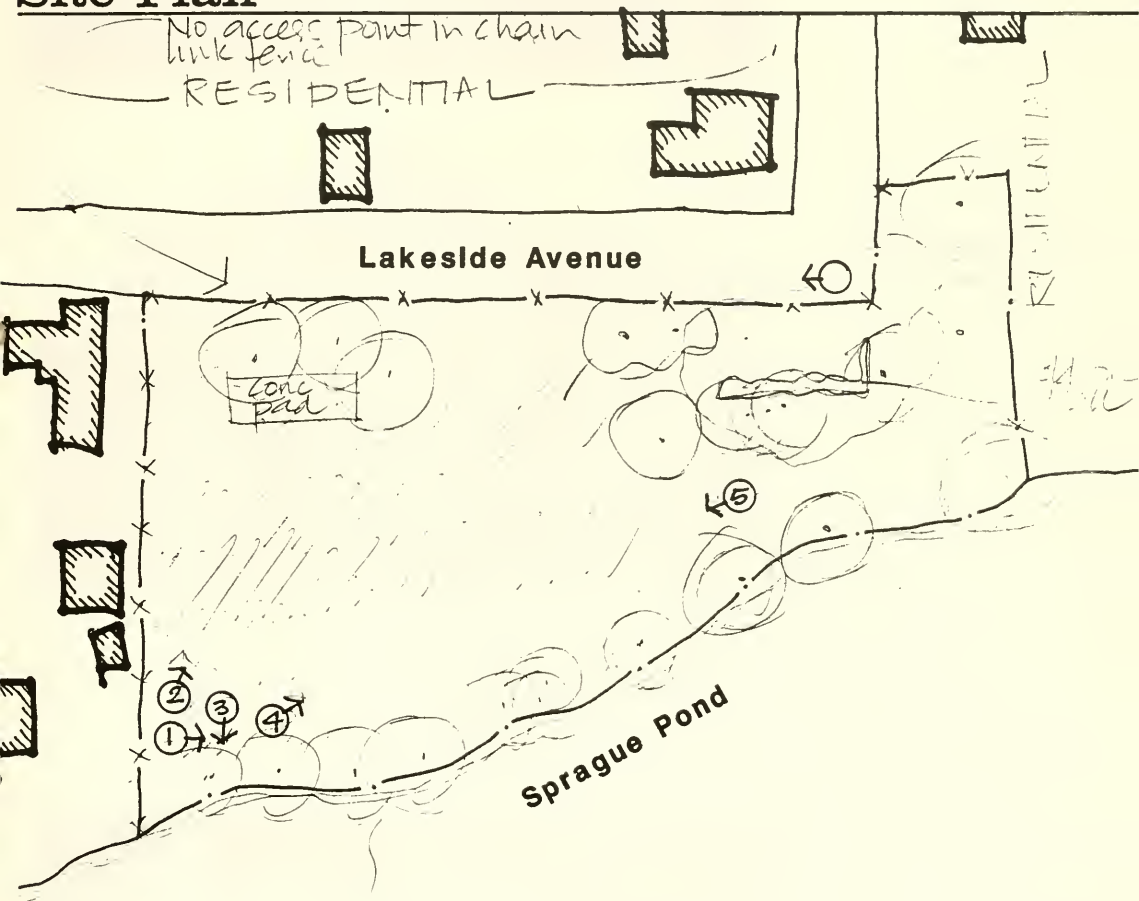


SITE NO.

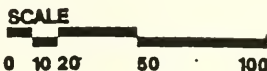
Neighborhood: HYDE PARK
Site Name: SPRAGUE POND
Location: LAKESIDE
Evaluation Team: SF & FH
Evaluation Date: 5.15.87
Surrounding Land Uses: Pond

Site Type: Local
Acreage: 1.55A
Weather Conditions: Rain
Surrounding Land Uses: Residential, Industrial

Site Plan



View to Kaul Pond
Yard - 1st
Hills beyond





SITE NO.



Site Photograph 1

View across site showing scenic quality of Willow trees at water's edge and well-mowed lawn.



Site Photograph 2

Mature Maple trees with concrete pad at base.



Site Photograph 3

View across Sprague Pond with railway yard and Blue Hills in the distance.



SITE NO.



Site Photograph 4

Stand of Maple trees.



Site Photograph 5

Willow trees at water's edge.



Site Photograph 6

Lakeside Avenue. No access through chain link fence.

Neighborhood: Hyde Park
Site Name: Sprague Pond
Location: Lakeside Avenue
Acreage: 1.35 A
Site Type: Urban Wild

Site Description:

Sprague Pond is an irregularly shaped parcel on the northern edge of five-acre Sprague Pond. To the north the site abuts Lakeside Avenue, a dirt road. To the east and west, and across Lakeside Avenue, are residences. There is a railroad yard along the far shore of the pond. North and south of the pond are industrial uses. The site is a moderately sloping grassy area with a row of willow trees at the water's edge. It is enclosed along Lakeside Avenue and abutting residences by a four-foot chain-link fence. Surrounding land uses are residential and industrial.

Major Site Issues:

Sprague Pond has an outstanding scenic landscape of rolling lawn, water, mature trees and distant views to the Blue Hills. The pond-side willows particularly enrich the visual quality of the site. This site is highly suitable for passive recreation, and yet its perimeter fence prevents access. Need for this fence should be clarified and the site made available for use, with the possible addition of benches or a picnic table. This is a refreshing and inviting open space in an area where there is a large amount of industrial use.

DRAFT

Neighborhood: Hyde Park
Site Name: Sprague Pond
Location: Lakeside Avenue
Acreage: 1.35 A

No.: HP-56

Site Type: Urban Wild

Site Description:

Sprague Pond is an irregularly shaped parcel on the northern edge of five-acre Sprague Pond. To the north the site abuts Lakeside Avenue, a dirt road. To the east and west, and across Lakeside Avenue, are residences. There is a railroad yard along the far shore of the pond. North and south of the pond are industrial uses. The site is a moderately sloping grassed area with a row of Willow trees at the water's edge. It is enclosed along Lakeside Avenue and abutting residences by a four foot chain link fence. Surrounding land uses are residential and industrial.

Major Site Issues:

Sprague Pond has an outstanding scenic landscape of rolling lawn, water, mature trees and distant views to the Blue Hills. The pond-side Willows, in particular, enrich the visual quality of the site. This site is highly suitable for passive recreation, and yet its perimeter fence prevents access. Need for this fence should be clarified and the site made available for use, with the possible addition of benches or a picnic table. This is a refreshing and inviting open space in an area where there is a large amount of industrial use.

site number

site name

district

address

ward

14-09

Sprague Pond

Hyde Park

Sprague Street
Lakeside Avenue

18

ownership
City of Boston (Real
Property Department)size
58,877 s.f.
1.35 acreelevation
low pt. 55'
high pt. 70'zoning
M-1

1. Natural characteristics:

Pond and surrounding grassy shoreline. Shoreline vegetation includes Red Maples and Willows.

2. Visual characteristics:

Rural setting offering views to the Blue Hills.

3. Diversity within site:

Pond, shoreline, maintained grass area, manicured gardens of residents.

4. Characteristics:

primary	Pond
secondary	Scenic views of the Blue Hills.
tertiary	Shoreline.

5. Surrounding environment:

Nineteenth century house, large factories, vacant land.

6. Accessibility:

The site is enclosed by private land.

7. Condition of site:

Excellent; water appears to be relatively unpolluted.

8. Potential development:

Unknown

9. Significance of site:

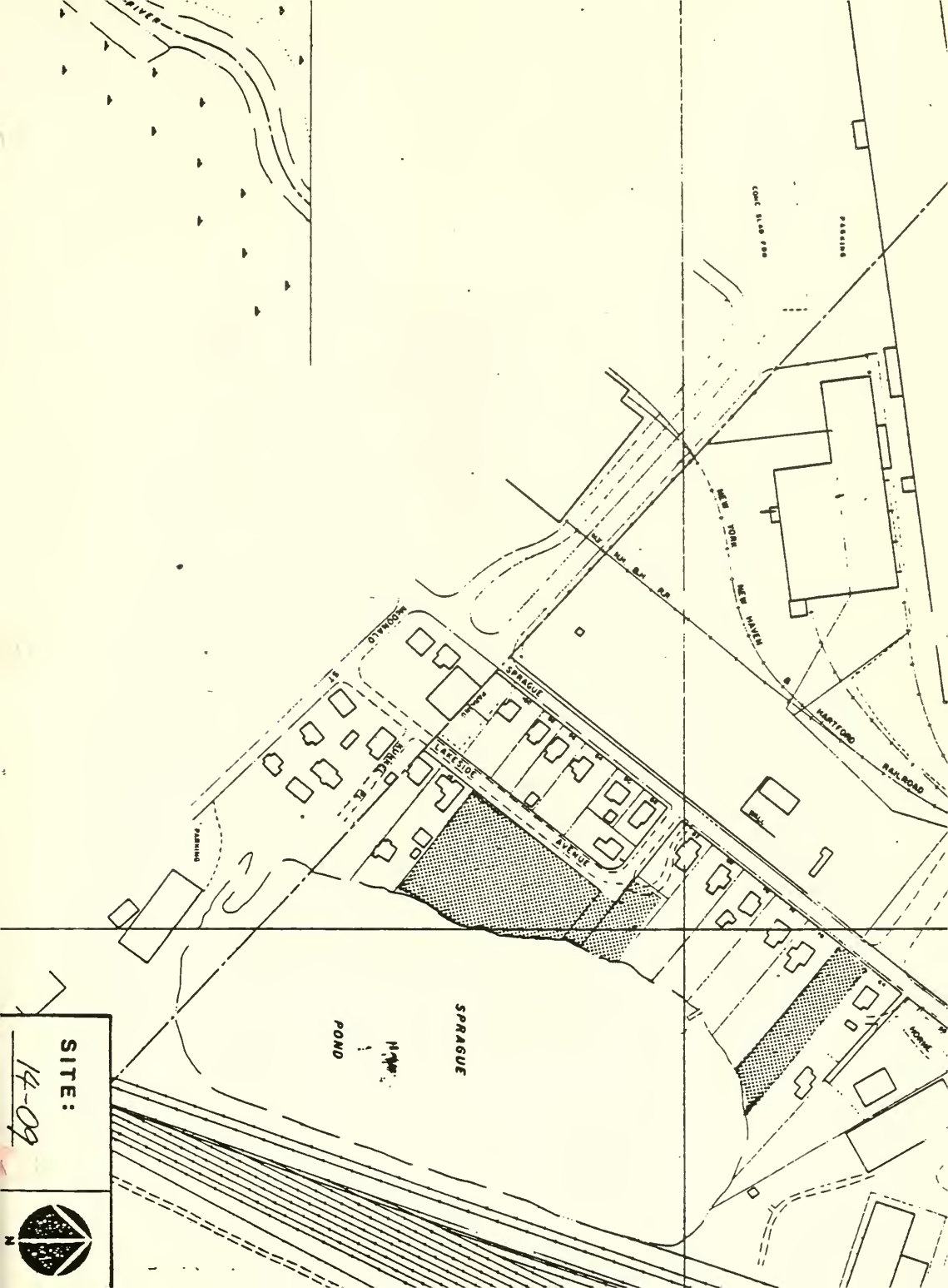
The site contains a uniquely scenic pond highly suitable to passive recreation. This is the only pond in Boston without public access.

10. Date surveyed:

November, 1974

Comments:

The pond is impacted by the Penn Central main line tracks which abut the eastern side.



SITE:

14-09



CITY OF BOSTON PARK EVALUATION

URBAN WILDS



SITE NO.

	SITE PROBLEMS										SITE NEEDS									
	EXISTS	PRIOR	PRIOR	INVASIVE SPECIES	POOR PATH ACCESS	VISIBILITY SYSTEM	EVIDENCE OF FIRE	OTHER VANDALISM	ROAD SAFETY PROBLEM	INTRUSION	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	TRASH REMOVAL	VEGETATION REMOVAL	VEGETATION PLANTING	ACCESS	PATH DEVELOPMENT	WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT	OTHER
WETLAND																				
WOODLAND																				
MEADOW																				
WATERFRONT																				
POND																				
STREAM																				
ROCK OUTCROP																				
OTHER																				
SITE PROBLEMS																				
DEGREE OF DISTURBANCE																				
SITE NEEDS																				
EVIDENCE OF RECENT SITE IMPROVEMENTS																				
EVIDENCE OF USE:																				
TYPE OF URBAN WILD:																				

Many areas of domestic debris
Planted trees, lawn and bridge

- Entire site covered off w/ cut any areas - is probably perceived by
- rights - but with property owned by
- willowst maples and many other trees
- perceived as well - would make the developed area feel quiet
- site would be more attractive
- View into road and bridge beyond

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